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ARAB TIMES

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1988

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18 PAGES 150 FILS

Troops try to crush resistance to coup

Massacre in Rangoon



Saw Maung

RANGOON, Sept 19, (Agencies): Heavily-armed Burmese troops fired at crowds of demonstrators in Rangoon today to crush popular resistance to a military coup, killing and wounding scores of people, residents said.

One Western diplomat estimated the death toll at about 400, many of them students, but this could not be confirmed.

Witnesses said many of the dead and wounded were shot without warning near the Rangoon General Hospital, the 2,000-year-old Buddhist shrine Sule Pagoda and the City Hall.

Gunfire and explosions were heard in various parts of the city of three million people and surrounding areas.

Takeover

The first shots were fired within hours of the takeover yesterday by Defence Minister and Army chief General Saw Maung, closely associated with socialist rulers whose authority has been challenged by months of pro-democracy demonstrations.

Witnesses said they saw monks try to stop the bloodshed by surrounding attacking soldiers in some areas of the capital.

Rangoon looked like a city under siege, with sections of the city barricaded by militant students to impede movement of troops trying to restore control.

Opposition leaders General

situation today in similar terms. Kyaw Sann said crowds today raided two police stations, stealing 13 rifles and pistols along with ammunition.

He said "strike centres" had been abolished in most parts of the country, and that authorities killed three people and wounded 15 when clearing such centres in Magwe, Taungyi and Loikaw.

Unofficial sources said clashes also occurred in Mandalay, the country's second largest city.

Student posters appeared in several parts of the city asking the people to conserve energy and await instructions. The posters said action would be taken against soldiers.

Diplomats said there were reports that troops disarmed police in some districts of the city and shut down all newspaper offices.

Evacuated

"It looks very, very bad," one of the diplomats said.

Earlier in the day the bodies of the dead and wounded lay stretched out on the streets. They could not immediately be evacuated because of intense firing.

In an apparent move to cool political passions, Burma's new military rulers announced today the abrogation of laws safeguarding the existence of the Burma Socialist Programme Party (BSPP), Burma's sole legal party over the past 25 years.

"If the American administration preserves the good relations that started several years ago, of course, Iraq will reciprocate," he added.

The Senate has called for economic sanctions against Iraq for allegedly using internationally banned weapons in a crackdown on Kurdish rebels in northern Iraq. The State Department also said it has evidence, based on examination of Kurdish refugees in Turkey, that poison gas was used in autonomous Kurdistan.

The United Nations has asked Iraq to allow investigators to probe into the charges, but Baghdad viewed the move as an interference in Iraq's domestic affairs and refused to admit the team.

Irqi officials have denied their Army used banned weapons against the Kurds.

Aziz also renewed charges Iran was blocking progress in UN-sponsored talks aimed at settling the eight-year Gulf war. The talks were launched in Geneva on Aug 25, five days after a ceasefire took hold on the war over.

Political sources said Murphy worked out a deal with Syria in five days of talks last week to back Daher, a 60-year-old lawyer from north Lebanon, in the election.

Syria commands wide influence in Lebanon where it has some 25,000 troops, a

Storm over Syria-US deal

Lebanon plunges into political crisis again



Sanctions will harm US-Iraqi ties: Aziz

BAGHDAD, Sept 19, (AP): Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz said today future relations with Washington depended on whether the US administration "yields" to Senate calls for sanctions against Iraq for allegedly using chemical weapons against Kurdish rebels.

A senior Christian government official quoted Murphy as telling Christian leaders: "If you don't support the election of Daher then we will leave you to deal with the Syrians alone. We will consider this position directed against us."

One of the other presidential candidates, National Liberal Party chief Dany Chamoun, told reporters: "We reject a President imposed by anyone, especially when the nomination is coupled with indirect threats by a representative of a big power seen by the world as a country of freedom and democracy."

Exchanges

With political tension high, security sources today reported rocket and machinegun exchanges between rival Christian and Muslim militiamen across Beirut's Green Line battlefield.

They said the battles, the first across the Green Line for two years, rocked the Nijmeh area where the old Parliament House is located and where Lebanon's 76 deputies are due to elect the President on Thursday.

Gemayel's six-year term ends on Friday.

Talks between Syria and the United States on choosing a new President, who must be a Maronite Christian, were deadlocked last month when Damascus backed former President Suleiman Franjeh, backed by many of his fellow Christians.

Sources said Christian politicians opposed to Daher were urging a repeat of the boycott of Parliament they staged on Aug 18 to thwart the election of Franjeh.

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American Charge d'Affaires Dan Simpson (second right) leaves West Beirut where he held talks with the Sunni leader Sheikh Hassan Khaled. (Reuter wirephoto)

agreed to try to persuade its earlier choice, Franjeh, to withdraw from the race if the Christians agree to back Daher.

Beyrouth's independent An Nahar newspaper, whose publisher Ghassan Tueini, attended Murphy's talks with Gemayel, said the US envoy was "surprised by the Christian rejection of Daher because he thought he had scored a breakthrough by getting Syria to drop Franjeh."

Maronite Patriarch Nasrallah Sfeir met 17 Maronite deputies and Christian sources said they would discuss the nomination of either Deputy Raymond Eddé or Army commander Michel Aoun, to oppose Daher.

Both Aoun and the Lebanese Forces have rejected Daher's nomination.

Sheikh Mohammed Mehdi Shamseddine, vice-president of the Supreme Shi'ite Council, referring to the Christians' stand, told reporters: "We are afraid that what happened will become a new and dangerous reason for new civil strife."

Opposed

The Christian sources said that Prime Minister Selim Al Hoss and Speaker of Parliament Hussein Husseini were holding talks in Damascus with Syrian officials today on the crisis.

Political sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Murphy told Lebanese leaders that the best he could extract from the Syrians was to delay the discussion of political reforms until after a new President is elected.

The Syrian government also

(Continued on Page 2)

NICOSIA, Sept 19, (Agencies): Iran said yesterday that it lost 126,240 military men and 11,000 civilians killed in the eight-year-old war with Iraq, the first time Tehran has announced any casualty figures.

Iranian Guidance and Culture Minister Mohammad Khatami said in an interview with Tehran Radio, that another 60,711 men were listed as missing in action.

Iraqi officials have claimed more than 300,000 Iranians were killed.

Iranian commanders wide influence in Lebanon where it has some 25,000 troops, a

gest conventional war this century.

Iran held a 3-1 manpower edge over its foe, but for much of the war the Iraqis fought from heavily fortified defence lines that helped minimise their casualties.

Khatami, who is also a deputy commander at military headquarters, said the Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps suffered the worst casualties.

The Guards bore the brunt of

(Continued on Page 2)

Iran lost 126,240 combatants in war

He compared the Israeli space shot to the Soviet Union's 1957 Sputnik satellite which began the US-Soviet space race.

"I cannot go into the details but it was very clear work," he said.

The launch makes Israel the only space power in the Middle East. Diplomats said the achievement was bound to enhance the Jewish state's military capabilities in the face of Arab hostility.

Tony Banks, a chief reporter for Jane's who is known to have close links to Israeli military sources, said Israel was not thought to have the capability to install its own sophisticated surveillance equipment in a satellite.

Height

"US optical equipment is assumed to have been used in the payload," Banks said in London.

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres tried to play down the military aspect, saying: "This is not a weapon. This is not an arms race. This is technology."

He told Israel Radio: "There is defence potential in all of this

action, but that is for the defence establishment to decide. Now the importance of the satellite is technological."

A spokesman for London's Jane's Defence Weekly said the satellite was believed to be "carrying a three-kilogramme (6.6 pound) payload for surveillance purposes."

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Gunbattle over reports of sexual molestation

PESHAWAR, Sept 19, (Reuter):

At least three people died in northwestern Pakistan today in a gunbattle which erupted after reports that a male teacher had sexually molested a schoolboy, a local official said.

Tribesmen angered by the reports attacked government buildings in Jamrud at the foot of the Khyber Pass and freed prisoners from a jail. District Commissioner Ejaz Rahim told reporters.

The silver craft was set aloft over the sea south of Tel Aviv, where witnesses saw it arch and watched as booster rockets disengaged and fell.

"It was astonishing," an unidentified witness said on Israel Radio. "We saw a trail of smoke and an enormous flash of light and a blast ... at some stage, something separated from it."

A gunbattle with security forces followed in which a student, an escaping prisoner and a passerby were killed and four people injured, Rahim said.

The teacher had fled, local government sources said.

Jamrud is in one of the largely self-governing tribal areas along the Afghan border.

IT would appear that some ministers never take heed of comments made in the press, even though such comments reflect public opinion and demands and are not merely the personal views of the writer.

Decisions and laws which have no further relevance should be amended, but instead of that, some ministers seem bent on implementing them with little or no regard for the public's satisfaction.

Expressions of discontent should be noted and accepted by ministers and ways sought to settle grievances if we are to avoid considering those responsible as arrogant and uncaring.

Zahed Matar

One political source said: "If a President is not elected then Lebanon faces partition because the Muslims will only acknowledge the present cabinet headed by Hoss to confront the one formed by Gemayel."

Lebanon's top Christian clerics also met today and issued a statement saying deputies should not be pressured to vote in any particular way.

An Nahar newspaper quoted Daher as saying: "If the decision has been taken for my nomination, then I have not taken part in this ... the right path we should

(Continued on Page 2)

DAY BY DAY

WEATHER

TEMPERATURE will be around normal with light variable to north-westerly wind.
High: 8.00 pm
Low: 12.00 noon
Sunrise: 5.35 am
Sunset: 5.47 pm
Maximum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 41°C 106°F
Ahmadi: 39°C 102°F
Fallaka: 37°C 99°F
Minimum temperatures expected:
Kuwait: 32°C 89°F
Ahmadi: 30°C 86°F
Fallaka: 28°C 82°F
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 36 per cent
Ahmadi: 45 per cent
Fallaka: 49 per cent
Maximum humidity expected:
Kuwait: 38 per cent
Ahmadi: 47 per cent
Fallaka: 51 per cent

(Continued on Page 2)

INTERNATIONAL

Americans favour US help to curb world population growth

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19. (UPI): Most Americans want the United States to help curb rapid population growth by funding birth control programmes in developing countries, a Harris Poll showed yesterday.

In fact, the survey by Louis Harris and Associates found widespread fear in the United States that the world's population is growing at a pace that threatens their jobs, security and the global environment.

Sixty per cent of the 1,250 adults questioned in the nationwide telephone survey in May said the United States should give family planning aid to developing countries, even where abortion is legal.

"The message is clear," said Faye Waterson, president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, which commissioned the poll along with the Population Crisis Committee.

Message
"Americans care deeply about stemming the negative effects of unintended pregnancy, unwanted birth, and rapid population growth — here and in the world's poorest nations. Our political leaders must heed this message and enact public policies with the view of the American public," she said.

Planned parenthood has been

Iran lost 126,240 ...

(Continued from Page 1)

the fighting and repeatedly launched human-wave offensives against Iraq's formidable defences in which they were gunned down in their thousands.

Civilians
Khatami said the regular Army lost 35,170 men killed.

Khatami said the paramilitary Gendarmerie lost 7,061 killed, the Jihad Construction Corps, a military engineering force, 3,075 and police and revolutionary committees 1,270.

Khatami also said 11,000 civilians were killed in Iraqi attacks on Iranian cities.

Iranian Mujahideen rebels rejected as "a big lie" Tehran's statement that 126,240 Iranians died in the war.

Jackson replaces Cosby as highest-paid entertainer

NEW YORK, Sept. 19. (UPI): Pop singer Michael Jackson, who will make about \$97 million during 1987 and 1988, has replaced comedian Bill Cosby as the world's highest-paid entertainer, Forbes magazine reports in its Oct. 3 issue.

Jackson, who was ranked ninth last year on the Forbes list, should earn about \$60 million in 1988 from his worldwide tour, recording and publishing efforts, Forbes said, adding that the 30-year-old singer earned \$37 million in 1987.

Cosby falls to the No. 2 spot on the Forbes list of 40 best-paid celebrities with an estimated income of \$92 million for 1987 and 1988.

Forbes compiled its list by using the income of performers over the past two years to overcome the year-to-year volatility of a performer's income, a magazine spokesman said.

The minimum two-year income needed to qualify was \$16 million.

Gilbert's carnage

MONTERREY, Mexico, Sept. 19. (AP): Mexican Miguel de la Madrid surveyed hurricane Gilbert's carnage in this northern industrial city and said that Mexico has "a lot to lament."

The official Mexico death toll rose to 122 yesterday, 90 of those due to drownings in and around Monterrey, the capital of Nuevo Leon state, due to flash floods. Officials said they feared the flooding death toll would rise to 200.

Thirty-one people died when the hurricane slammed into Mexico's Yucatan peninsula on Wednesday with winds of up to 200 miles per hour (320 kilometres per hour), and one woman drowned yesterday in flood waters in the coastal state of Tamaulipas.

Gilbert, the strongest hurricane on record, inflicted a week of terror and suffering as it swept across the Caribbean, into Mexico and then up into the southern United States.

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significant reforms. And last week the official, communist-run trade unions, representing nearly half the Polish workforce, called on the government to resign.

The 460-member Sejm, which meets less than once a month, normally acts as a rubber stamp for the policies of the ruling Communist Party. It has 245 party members, 106 from the Peasant Party and 35 from the Democratic Party — both allied with the communists — and 74 independent members, including Catholic representatives.

If the Sejm accepts the resignation as expected, it will appoint a new premier and order him to present proposals concerning the composition of the council of ministers — but not necessarily at the current session. The next Sejm session is unofficially scheduled on Sept. 29, a parliamentary source said.

Until the new cabinet is appointed, the old cabinet would continue to operate, according to the Sejm press office and reports by the official news agency PAP.

Strikes
Messner said the recent 20-day wave of strikes that ended on Sept. 3, and led to the Walesa-government talks, resulted in a deterioration of the economic situation. He listed losses of 50 billion zloties (\$111 million) and hard currency losses of up to one hundred million dollars.

Social Democrats retain power in Swedish polls

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 19. (AP): The Social Democratic Party, presiding over a prospering economy, fought off a challenge from the environmentalist Greens and retained its hold on a minority government in parliamentary elections.

Nearly complete returns today gave the Greens a place in the 349-member Riksdag for the first time, but the party failed to gain enough seats to be a legislative power broker.

Pre-election predictions said the Greens, officially called the Environment Party, would hold the balance of power between the left and the centre-right blocs, giving the novice politicians unusual leverage.

Suffered
The Greens, which became the first outside party to enter parliament in 70 years, drew most of their support from the three non-socialist opposition parties, which suffered their worst combined defeat since World War II.

"We have ridden out the storm and stood steady in the wind, and we have won," a smiling Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson said of yesterday's balloting.

Carlsson, who took office after the 1986 assassination of Olof Palme, admitted he had been "a bit nervous" leading his party in an election for the first time.

Carl Bildt, leader of the conservative Moderate Party, claimed the outcome showed hope for the opposition and the beginning of a decline for the ruling party, which lost support in large cities "where political attitudes change faster."

Results based on returns from all but a few mail ballots gave the Social Democrats 43.7 per cent of the vote for a projected 156 seats, a loss of three seats.

The Communist Party took 5.9 per cent to win 21 seats, a gain of two. Though there is no formal agreement, the communists tacitly support the Social Democrats and guarantee their ability to govern.

Pre-election polls had predicted the communists might fail to muster the four per cent minimum for a seat in the unicameral

Mishaps

The Social Democrats had been shaken by a series of mishaps earlier this year, including a politically risky attempt to sponsor a private investigation into Palme's unsolved murder. The popular Justice Minister, Anna-Greta Leijon, was forced to resign in June for overstepping her authority in the affair.

Carlsson focused the final weeks of the campaign on the management of the economy at a time when business profits and wages were high, unemployment was reduced to 1.7 per cent and public spending was brought into line.

Car explodes

JOHANNESBURG, Sept. 19. (AP): A stolen car loaded with limpet mines exploded today in a garage underneath an apartment building, injuring and damaging more than 30 cars, police said.

Police said the pre-dawn blast was one of the most powerful of more than 40 bombings in South Africa this year.

Most of the previous bombings have been blamed by authorities on the outlawed African National Congress guerrilla movement. The ANC acknowledges waging a bombing and sabotage campaign aimed at undermining the government, but it generally does not comment on individual blasts.

Haitians celebrate coup

PONT-AU-PRINCE, Sept. 19. (Reuter): Lieutenant-General Prosper Avril set out to form a new Haitian government today after toppling General Henri Namphy in an Army coup which led to dancing in the streets.

People turned the capital into a carnival city yesterday to celebrate the weekend coup, but sporadic shooting was heard around Port-au-Prince and at least five people were killed as vengeful mobs roamed the streets seeking Namphy supporters.

A day after Avril proclaimed himself President on national television, he had yet to announce the members of his cabinet. Local political observers said in-fighting was likely in the military over the make-up of the new government.

Retired

Avril took power early yesterday after middle-level officers rebelled against Namphy, who had seized office only three months before by ousting civilian President Leslie Manigat. Avril, a close adviser to Namphy, had assisted him in the June coup.

Namphy fled yesterday to the Dominican Republic where he received political asylum. He was accompanied by Frank Romain, mayor of Port-au-Prince and an ally of ousted dictator Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier, who left the country in February 1986.

Namphy refused to speak to reporters. A manager at the hotel where he is staying with his wife and daughter said the ousted leader had told him he would not make any public remarks — "not today, not tomorrow, not ever."

Three of those killed yesterday were men attacked by an angry crowd searching for followers of Romain, who was widely blamed for violence last week in which three churches were attacked by machete-wielding gangs. In one church 11 people were killed and 70 wounded.

Ransacked

Many Haitians said they believed the attackers were led by members of the Tonton Macoutes, the dreaded militia founded by former dictator Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier under orders from Romain.

Crowds ransacked the homes of Namphy and Romain and the new government issued a plea for Haitians to refrain from reprisals.

"In these difficult moments, the government asks the population to maintain order and not to ransack properties," said a communiqué read over television and radio.

18 Armenians hurt as Azerbaijanis fire on bus

MOSCOW, Sept. 19. (Reuter): Eighteen Armenian students were wounded when Azerbaijanis opened fire on a bus travelling in the disputed Soviet region of Nagorno-Karabakh yesterday, a spokeswoman for the region's governing council said today.

She said troops had sealed off Stepanakert, the capital of Nagorno-Karabakh, and the city remained completely shut down by a protest strike which began one week ago.

"The city is extremely tense," the spokeswoman told Reuters by telephone from Stepanakert.

She said doctors had been flown in from Yerevan, the Armenian capital, to treat four students seriously injured in the attack in Khodzhalu, a town mainly populated by ethnic Azerbaijanis, which is located near Stepanakert.

The students had been travelling from Yerevan to Stepanakert to work as a construction brigade when Azerbaijanis surrounded their bus and began pelting it with stones.

Damaged

"Windows were smashed, the bus was damaged, and then they opened fire," the spokeswoman said. She said the bus driver escaped uninjured and was able to drive on to Stepanakert, but a number of students were first beaten up by the assailants.

A spokesman for the official Armenian news agency in Yerevan confirmed that the incident occurred, but said 17 — not 18 — students were injured according to reports reaching Armenia.

Later last night a group of Azerbaijanis opened fire on Armenians in Stepanakert, itself, injuring several of them, the spokeswoman said. But she said she did not know exactly how many were hurt.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Iranian poet dies

NICOSIA, Sept. 19. (AP): One of Iran's best known poets, Mohammad-Hussein Behjat Tabrizi, who wrote under the nom de plume of Shahryar, has died, aged 83, Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency reported yesterday.

The agency said he died in a Tehran hospital "after a long period of illness," but gave no other details.

Proposal for UN

UNITED NATIONS, Sept. 19. (Reuter): The Soviet Union and 12 of its allies have called for the dissolution of the United Nations command in South Korea and the withdrawal of all foreign troops stationed there under the UN flag.

The proposal was contained in a letter to Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, published today, proposing a new item for the General Assembly agenda.

Tourists stranded

IGOUmenitsa, Greece, Sept. 19. (AP): More than 400 foreign tourists were stranded in this northwestern port today, eight days after farmers blockaded its harbour and all streets leading into the town.

"There are about 400 tourists that have been trapped here since this thing started and have nowhere to go. They are West German, Austrian and Swiss," Igomenitsa hotelier Vassilis Soutsos told the Associated Press by telephone.

Lebanon plunges into political ...

(Continued from Page 1)

follow is for the deputies to attend the session where they will choose whomever they want without any pressure."

A high-ranking French Foreign Ministry delegation today had talks in Damascus on the developments in Lebanon, diplomats said.

The team, including Gilbert Perel, secretary-general of the ministry, earlier had discussions in Lebanon, formerly a French mandated territory.

The Lebanese pound plunged against the dollar as people rushed to buy the US currency for fear the crisis would further push down the value of their currency.

It closed at 407.50 to the dollar compared with the previous close of 390.00, the Central Bank said.

Security sources said Aoun ordered Army engineers to clear the area around the old Parliament in Nijmeh of land mines to allow the deputies to reach the premises on Thursday.

Parliament has been using a temporary building on the Museum crossing between Muslim West and Christian East Beirut.

Western navies in Gulf ...

(Continued from Page 1)

An Iraqi tanker testing Bagdad's claim to freedom of navigation in the Gulf sailed through the Strait of Hormuz without interference by Iran, Western military sources said today.

The 35,338-tonne Aïn Zalahan's second voyage from Iraq since the Aug. 20 ceasefire in the Gulf war, left the waterway through the 30-mile wide strait last night.

Irqi President Saddam Hussein has said the war might resume if Iran searches any Iraqi ship and on Friday the Iraqi News Agency (INA) announced the departure of the Aïn Zalahan from Khor Al Zubair port.

Iraq says it has the right under international law to search Iraqi ships for war material. The issue has been a factor in stalled peace talks due to resume in New York on Thursday.

The military sources said Iraqi ships have made at least four voyages out of the Gulf and at least three into it since Aug. 20.

Iraq said it searched one of the vessels, the Khowla, on Aug. 20 but Iraq denied the report. No incidents have been reported since.

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مكتبة المعرفة

Electric power network focus of research project

By JEDRANKA PORTER

THE Kuwait-based Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) yesterday launched a research project to examine the viability of linking the power grids of the 12 Asian Arab states with Egypt's power network.

If implemented, the project will result in a multi-billion dollar unified Arab power grid which scientists believe will reduce the investment and operational electricity production costs in individual countries.

The agreement was signed by AFESD Board Chairman Dr Abdul Latif Al Hamad, Dr Ahmed Al Jassar of the Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR) and Dr Abdulla Dabagh of King Fahd College of Petroleum and Minerals.

UAE ministers arrive in Egypt

CAIRO, Sept 19. (Reuters): Six ministers from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) arrived in Cairo today for political and economic consultations, including openings for UAE investments in Egypt.

The head of the team, Deputy Prime Minister Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammed Al Nahyan, said on arrival he hopes to boost co-operation with Egypt.

"The Emirates appreciate the deep and good relations between our two countries and hope they will be promoted further and further," he said.

The UAE delegation, which includes Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid Abdullah Al Nuaimi and Minister of Economy and Trade Seif Ali Al Jarwan, is due to discuss investment proposals with Egypt, officials said.

The projects include UAE funding to reclaim 65,000 feddans (acres) of desert for agricultural use and the establishment of a joint company to build tourist villages.

Egypt and the UAE signed an economic accord in July designed to increase trade, investment and technical co-operation.

The study, financed by the AFESD, will be carried out by scientists from KISR and the King Fahd College in Saudi Arabia. It will take 30 months to complete.

Representatives from the countries concerned which include the GCC states, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Jordan and the two Yemens, as well as Egypt met yesterday in Kuwait to discuss economic and technical aspects of the project.

Secure

Al Hamad opened the session saying the project contributes to the joint Arab effort to develop electricity in the Arab world. AFESD got interested in the issue at the 1982 Arab Energy Conference, he said.

Al Jassar also addressed the opening session of the two-day meeting. He expressed confidence in the feasibility of the

project and its economic viability. The project will reduce the costs of expansion, he said.

Egypt, given its central geographical location in the Arab world, can act as a link between its eastern and western parts.

Cost

The project will be greatly facilitated by the existing studies on the GCC common power grid, on the network unification between the two Yemens and between Jordan and Egypt, said Dr Mervat Badawi of the AFESD. These studies were also financed by the AFESD.

The GCC governments approved the common grid project estimated to cost \$2 billion. The Yemen project is expected to cost \$70 million while the Jordan-Egypt common grid will cost between \$170

million and \$220 million.

Badawi said a common grid for the Arab world will secure a steady supply to individual countries and will reduce investment and operational costs in the long run.

She added that the final say on the project will come from the concerned governments.

Al Hamad said AFESD gave 30 loans to 12 Arab countries totalling \$550 million or 15.5 per cent of its total loans to the development of electricity. The other Arab Funds gave \$3.1 billion in loans to the Arab countries for construction of dams to generate hydro-electric power in addition to developing agriculture.

The Arab countries, in turn, allocated \$32 billion for electricity in the 1970-80 and \$46 billion in the 1980-85, he recalled.

Kuwaitis face problems leaving Soviet Union

MOSCOW, Sept 19. (KUNA): Arab passengers carried by the Soviet Airways (Aeroflot) and vacationing in the Soviet Union faced problems returning back this summer due to Aeroflot's disorderly system and the absence of co-ordination between main headquarters and offices abroad.

Complaints of Kuwaiti passengers returning home through Aeroflot centred on revocation of their reservations despite their round trip confirmed pre-reservations as shown in their airplane tickets.

Confusion

Aeroflot claimed that passengers' return reservations did not mean their seats were confirmed as long as their names were not included in the airways' travellers list.

For the passengers, the outcome of such confusion was a loss of extra money because they stayed longer than they planned and had to buy new tickets via different routes to finally be able

to return home. The headaches came when passengers tried to extend their visas during the compulsory delay which was due to the negligence and carelessness of Aeroflot passengers said.

Agreement

Several cases of changing passengers' first class seats to the economy class without prior notice were reported.

Reliable sources indicated that the overload was caused by a

large number of emigrant Soviet Jews taking advantage of Aeroflot flights to the Gulf region, disembarking in Larnaca, Cyprus, and then heading for their destinations.

Arabian Gulf Travel Agencies

in Kuwait and United Arab Emirates signed touristic agreements with the Soviet State Tourism Authority two years ago and Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC) citizens started to flock here for vacations.

Islamic council to meet today

CAIRO, Sept 19. (KUNA): The Chairman of International Islamic Charity Organisation, Yousef Al Hajj, and the Director General of the Kuwait Zakat House, Fuad Al Omar will arrive here tomorrow to attend meetings of the founding body of the International Islamic Council for Da'wa (call) and Relief.

The council was established after two decisions by the Fourth

International Conference for the Prophet's Life held in Cairo in 1985 and the Higher International Council for Mosques held in Holy Makkah, Saudi Arabia in October last year.

The Sept 21-22 conference will focus on the council's by-laws and financial resources a chairman, his deputy and a secretary general will also be elected during the conference.

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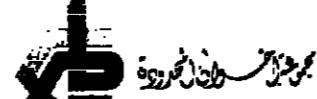
After satisfactory product testing, bulk sales of Hydro Grow 400 have been made to: Abu Dhabi - 15 tonnes, Oman - 1/2 tonne, and Qatar - 1/2 tonne.

In addition to these purchases, governments are evaluating Hydro Grow 400 in field tests in Syria (Ministry of Agriculture), Jordan (Farming Authority), Qatar (Research Stations) and Oman (Landscaping and Forestry.)

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Sudanese minister thanks Kuwaitis

By LIMA AL KHALAFAWI

SUDANESE Tourism and Hotels Minister Amin Bshir yesterday hailed the Kuwaiti response to the flood disaster that swept Sudan recently.

In an interview with local daily "Al Seyassat" published yesterday, the Sudanese minister said he greatly appreciates the support the Kuwaiti public and press gave the Sudanese people during the catastrophe. He said he also appreciates other Arab countries' stances which helped victims and led to an improvement in the situation.

The Sudanese flood victims currently need shelter before food, then equipment for combating locusts which could endanger western Sudan's crops, he indicated.

He came to Kuwait to consult with Kuwaiti Hotels Co., which contributed a large sum for the flood victims in addition to KD 0.25 million for equipment.

Kuwaiti Hotels Co. is a partner with the Sudanese Tourism Ministry in Hilton Al Khartoum.

Meanwhile, Bshir expressed optimism about the tourism sector in his country, but added that improvement of internal affairs must come first, he said.

Ferry fares announced

SEA transport fares from Kuwait to Falakha Island and vice-versa for passengers of Kuwait Public Transport Company's (KPTC) ferry boats are fixed as follows: half dinar per passenger for ferry boats carrying cars; one dinar per passenger for ordinary ferry boats; and a dinar and half for passengers of special ferry boats.

The Chairman and Managing Director of KPTC, Abdul Wahab Al Haroun was quoted as saying these fares do not apply to the citizens of Falakha Island.

These citizens will pay a unified tariff of half dinar per passenger irrespective of the type of ferry they use.

Students plan Palestinian rally

THE Palestine Committee of Kuwait's Students Union at Kuwait University will hold a rally in support of the Palestinian national uprising in the occupied territories on Wednesday in the university premises in Al Khaldiya.

The rally will be held under the slogan, "Palestine of Islam is from the river to the sea," said Mohammed Al Dallal, chairman of the union.

New postage stamps will be issued

THE Post Office Department of the Ministry of Communications has announced that a new set of postage stamps commemorating Arab Housing Day will be issued on Oct. 3.

The stamps will show a number of houses and residents, indicating Kuwait's continuous housing development. The stamp design will also include a golden key as a symbol of the assurance of housing for all citizens, according to a statement issued by the department.

But Western diplomats said Iraq appears determined to press its military advantage to obtain territorial concessions from Iran in the UN-sponsored talks, due to resume in New York in October.

Requiem Mass

RITA EMILIA CHIRISTALINO

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Born: 27-11-1900 (Taneiro Cortalim)
Died: 31-7-1988 (Margao)
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Interviews will be held at Dar Al Seyassat Advertising Department, above Burgan Bank, Shuwaikh branch, between 5-7pm.

Swedish envoy optimistic about Iran-Iraq talks



THE Swedish ambassador to Kuwait said he hoped that the United Nations' efforts to end the Gulf war will bear fruit through peace talks between Iran and Iraq.

Ambassador Ulf Norstrom said he is confident that Jan Eliasson, the special representative of the UN secretary-general at the negotiations, will be able to push the talks to a successful end.

Norstrom also said Eliasson is one of the most seasoned diplomats and his experience will help in moving the talks to a successful settlement.

The Sudanese flood victims currently need shelter before food, then equipment for combating locusts which could endanger western Sudan's crops, he indicated.

Sweden has contributed to the UN Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIMOG) which is monitoring the ceasefire between Iraq and Iran. Sweden has continually been sending its contingents to serve with the UN forces mainly in the Middle East.

Norstrom said:

Kuwaiti Hotels Co. is a partner with the Sudanese Tourism Ministry in Hilton Al Khartoum.

Meanwhile, Bshir expressed optimism about the tourism sector in his country, but added that improvement of internal affairs must come first, he said.

Asked about the presence of Western navies in the Gulf after the ceasefire and whether they will withdraw, the ambassador emphasised that Sweden's concern is to see a reduction of general tension in the Gulf and the right of neutral shipping by unrestricted safe passage through international waters.

Sweden hopes to contribute to the reconstruction effort in the post-war Iran and Iraq, Norstrom said.

Both countries were major

trading partners with Sweden before the war. A steady flow of trade existed even during the war years, he added.

Prohibits

Swedish industry has first-hand knowledge of the present situation in the two countries and their needs.

Most Swedish companies stayed in Iran and Iraq during the war and they are now in a good position to contribute to reconstruction in both countries, the ambassador said.

Kuwaiti Hotels Co. is a partner with the Sudanese Tourism Ministry in Hilton Al Khartoum.

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Both countries were major

Arab Gulf states fear deadlock in peace talks

ONE month after the formal

ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war,

Gulf Arab states have lost their

initial euphoria amid fears of a

prolonged deadlock in peace

talks.

Iraqis danced in the streets and

Kuwaiti citizens celebrated a

public holiday when the

guns fell silent after

eight years of war at dawn of Aug 20. Prices on the Kuwaiti stock

market, the busiest in the region,

remain stable.

But the mood was subdued in

Iraq, where leaders said they

would celebrate only when Iraq

had been declared the aggressor

after a United Nations inquiry.

Continued hostility between

Iraq and Iran was quickly

EVENTS

Nanda sings to create a better world

By Fathima Ahmed

YEARS of struggle have softened the heart of Sri Lankan singer Nanda Malini. Extreme poverty has given her determination. And 20 years of mass adulation has imparted renewed vigour to continue her mission — singing to create a better world.

"It is difficult to change the world through music but it is not futile to try," says Nanda as she talks about her fervent appeal for unity in Sri Lanka, which is torn by ethnic conflict.

"Maybe, one day things will change," says Nanda hopefully, with a far away look in her eyes. Nanda wants to jolt people from their slumber to review the misery surrounding them.

"Dramatists and novelists write and actors perform to spread their message. I sing," she says.

Message

Nanda's message is straightforward: remove hunger, poverty, disparity and religious differences. Sri Lankans listen to her, as was evident from the packed hall at a Kuwait hotel, where Nanda performed.

Nanda's recital of semi-classical music was arranged at short notice. The show was her 200th public performance.



Nanda Malini in performance.

Nanda is known in Sri Lanka as "pawana" or storm.

She stormed into the musical scene 23 years ago, singing her way into the hearts of the masses, revealing home truths, evoking a sense of nostalgia and touching hearts with her emotional melodies.

Mission

"Everywhere you look you see disparity, inequality and hunger. If only we could share," she says.

A naturally gifted vocalist, she lovingly nurtured her voice over the years with hard work

and perseverance, despite drawbacks.

With no musical family background, she was at a distinct disadvantage. This did not deter the singer. When she was eight years old her teachers recognised her talent and encouraged her to perform at school ceremonies. This was the start of her career.

"I was determined to make it big," she says.

Inspired by the success of her peers in fine arts like Saratchandra, Sugatpal, Dayanand and D'Silva, she gave her first

public performance at the age of 16. She also studied music in Lucknow, India, to consolidate her knowledge of the art form. At 20, she got her big break, becoming a sensation in her native land.

She was on her way to success and a step ahead on the way to furthering her musical mission of unity.

And so she sang — "Pilimani Kanatu" (some seek fame, others wealth, you seek immortality through your deeds).

She is committed to music but laments the lack of dedication of the younger generation of singers in her country.

Her motive is to make a fast buck and disappear; they don't want to promote art for art's sake. They want fame and wealth," she moans.

Once on stage she establishes immediate rapport with the audience. "Nanda's music is disturbing, yet it is touching and appealing," says one of her fans. Perhaps, that is the secret of her success.

At the Kuwait concert Nanda was accompanied by a six-member orchestra and her two daughters, Umar Rasoja and Ama Sarada. Sarada is following in her mother's footsteps and hopes to become a singer. The team returns home on Wednesday.

Awards

"Many talented people — singers, actors, musicians and writers — cannot concentrate on their art form because of pressing financial worries. The government must support them, remove their worries so that they can devote themselves to art," she says.

She sympathises with them because she herself experienced numerous hardships to fulfil her dream. Nanda admits she could not have achieved success if had she not been devoted.

Nanda's devotion has been amply rewarded. In the last two decades she has won six of the eight national awards for best singer and 11 of the 13 awards given at the Saraswati Film Festival in Sri Lanka.

Nanda is also playing her part to maintain the musical culture in her country. Recently, she set up a school of music. "I may not be able to produce hundreds of good singers. But a few of my pupils will become outstanding musicians," she predicts confidently.

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TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

3.30 Holy Quran
3.35 Heidi: cartoon serial
4.10 World News via Satellite

4.40 Fursan Al Hikmat: "Dua Min Al Qabz," Arabic serial, with Mohammad Dafarwali, Midhat Saleh, Hamza Shimi.

5.40 Cartoons
6.10 Summer '88
7.05 Songs and Music
7.30 Cultural Show

8.00 Faces and Events: prepared and presented by Adel Malek.

9.00 News in Arabic
9.50 Al Shar'a Maksour: Arabic serial, starring Hassan Yusuf, Nawal Al Futouh, Mustafa Fahmi, Osama Abbas.

10.50 A Talk with Ahsan Abdul Quddus: hosted by Mufeeda Fawzi.

12.05 News Summary
12.10 World News via Satellite, followed by Holy Quran/Closedown.



Magnum P.I. (Tom Selleck) on KTV 2

8.00 News in English
8.30 You and the Law: local show
8.50 Magnum: "L. A. Part One. Magnum's girl-friend is involved with a deadly gang and the private eye tries to help her. Starring: Tom Selleck.
9.30 Les Faucheurs de Marguerites: French series with Arabic sub-titles. Wilbur Wright arrives in Paris.
10.00 Perfect Strangers: "Hello Elaine." Larry's sister joins the cousins and declares her intention to study music. Larry is against the idea; Balki supports

12.00 News summary/Magazine d'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

KTV 2

4.30 Holy Quran
4.35 Cartoons
5.00 Daily report from Seoul Olympics.

6.14 Rubick
6.36 The Smart Morning: Part IV.
7.00 The Australian Ark

RADIO PROGRAMMES

BBC World Services

0000 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Radio Newsreel
30 Beethoven (ex 20th and 27th New Music)

0900 World News
09 British Press Review
15 The World Today
30 Financial News followed by Sport

45 English Songsmiths (ex 20th and 27th Sportsworld)

0100 News Summary followed by Outlook

30 Short Story
45 Language Extra

0200 World News
09 British Press Review
15 Network UK

30 Sports International
0300 World News

09 News about Britain
15 The World Today

30 John Peel

0400 Newscast

30 Without Strings (ex 20th and 27th Sportsworld)

45 Reflections

0500 World News

09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary

30 New Ideas

45 The World Today

0600 Newscast

30 Celluloid Rock

0700 World News

09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary

30 Sports Extra

45 Newscast

0800 World News

09 Reflections

15 Health Matters (ex 27th Tech Talk)
30 Beethoven (ex 20th and 27th New Music)

0900 World News

09 British Press Review

15 The World Today

30 Financial News followed by Sport

45 English Songsmiths (ex 20th and 27th Sportsworld)

1000 News Summary followed by Discovery

30 Sports International

1100 World News

09 News about Britain

15 Waveguide

25 Book Choice

30 Citizens

1200 Radio Newscast

15 Multiclick 1: Top 20

45 Sports Roundup

1300 World News

09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary

30 Without Strings (ex 20th and 27th Sportsworld)

45 Reflections

0500 World News

45 Recording of the Week

1400 Concert, opening with 5-Minute News

45 Without Strings (ex 27th)

1500 Radio Newscast

15 A Jolly Good Show

1600 World News

09 News about Britain

15 Omnibus

45 The World Today

1700 World News

09 Commentary

15 Citizens

45 Sports Roundup

1800 Newscast

30 Development '88

3100 Closedown

Urdu

1900 Opening
1910 Behren Qul
1916 Programme Preview
1920 Songs
1925 Press Report
1935 Radio Club
1940 Radio Club
2000 News
2020 Songs
2040 Jahan Numan
2100 Closedown

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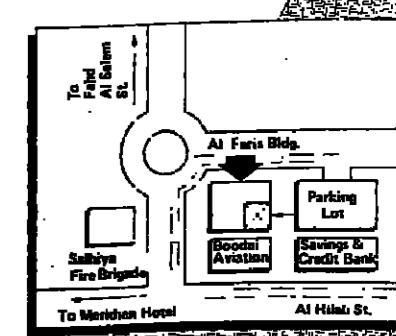
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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

TIME cools, time clarifies; no mood can be maintained quite unaltered through the course of hours — Thomas Mann, German writer (1875-1955).

Palestinian uprising

Opinions on Army's handling differ

By Mary Sedor

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, (AP): An Israeli reserve soldier, writing in his diary, sharply criticised the Army's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, saying troops were taught to beat Arabs with "dry blows" causing pain but drawing no blood.

A month after the uprising began, Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin ordered troops to use "force, power and blows" to put down the demonstrations.

Rapoport conceded troops were sometimes responsible for "accidents or misjudgments," including a case where an Israeli soldier made a firebomb and intended to hurl it at Arab demonstrators. His officers confiscated the weapon.

But, he wrote, many soldiers were frustrated by the fact that the Palestinians were winning a propaganda war by sending boys as young as 9 years old to the front lines of stone-throwing riots to take on armed troops.

"The scores of men in the reserve company I served with... are portrayed in the world media as part of a Goliath machine versus little David with his puny stones," Rapoport wrote.

Addressing the same issue, Kestenbaum wrote of the death of a 15-year-old Palestinian, killed by a member of his unit: "Why are we using live bullets on teenagers throwing stones?"

Chasing

Kestenbaum described chasing a 9-year-old boy who broke a 30-day curfew to try to retrieve bread from a gutter and rounding up a group of elderly Palestinians who sneaked to the fields at night to pick a bucket of tomatoes rotting in the fields.

"Our jeep springs into action, chasing this family as if the very future of our country depended on it. We corner them," Kestenbaum wrote. "At which point the old woman, 90 years old, falls to her knees, kisses my hand and begs me not to detain her: 'We really need tomatoes,' she says.

"These are vulgar, unnecessary situations, which humiliate them and degrade us," Kestenbaum added.

Both Kestenbaum and Rapoport described the shooting deaths of Palestinians during their tours, but had markedly different reactions to the killings.

"I doubt whether any other Army in the world... would act with more restraint," Rapoport said, adding that he considered the Arab fatalities in the uprising to be "remarkably low, given the scale of the revolt."

Fighting in Afghanistan

Soviets adopted a scorched earth policy

By Edward Girardet

JAGI DISTRICT, Afghanistan: The farms at the base of the snow-capped Safed Koh Range in eastern Afghanistan's Paktia Province have been abandoned since the early days of the 1979 Soviet occupation.

Most of the villages were turned to rubble from repeated aerial and artillery bombardments in what most analysis say was a deliberate Soviet policy to destroy the agricultural base in held areas.

The terraced fields, their walls crumbling from lack of maintenance, are thickly overgrown with weeds. The irrigation canals are little more than shallow depressions in the ground. The only animals to be seen are the goats and camels of a group of passing nomads. The livestock graze at risk because of the thousands of mines planted by the communist forces.

The story is similar throughout Afghanistan. A Peshawar-based relief agency released a report which claims to be the "most comprehensive survey of agriculture in Afghanistan ever conducted in peace or war." The survey, which was long awaited by the international aid community, is considered critical for the reconstruction of Afghanistan.

Production

According to the survey, farm production has fallen drastically to between 45 per cent and 50 per cent of levels prior to the Soviet invasion. "Our report shows a consistent decline in all regions," said Azam Gul, the American-educated director of the agricultural survey and former chairman of the Department of Agronomy at Kabul University.

The Christian Science Monitor.

Gender gap in US elections

Bush is not popular among women voters

By Evert C. Ladd

WASHINGTON: As far as we can tell, men and women never voted very differently in any presidential election prior to 1980. When there was a trace of difference, women were often a bit more Republican. For example, in both 1952 and '56, Dwight D. Eisenhower bettered his overall showing by about three percentage points among women but did three points less well among men, according to Gallup's post-election surveys.

But the gap hasn't closed. Bush has confronted one as large as or greater than Reagan faced at the same time in 1980.

Nor is the gender gap confined to presidential politics. In the last two off-year congressional elections, women have given Democratic candidates some bigger margins than men have.

Party identification also shows sustained male-female differences. For example, four surveys taken between February and June 1988 for the Americans Tally Security (ATS) project found men dividing evenly in party loyalties — 32 per cent Democratic, 32 per cent Republican, and 36 per cent independent. Women, though, were clearly more Democratic: 40 per cent identified themselves as Democrats, just 29 per cent as Republicans, and 31 per cent as independents.

Survey

A survey taken in June by Hamilton, Frederick and Schneiders found that black men and women were both heavily Democratic, but white men and women differed substantially: Among the men, Republicans outnumbered Democrats by 10 percentage points, while among the women Democrats led by



George Bush

about the same margin.

Some of the gender gap in participation may be due simply to personal attributes of recent candidates. Research indicates, however, that the bulk of it stems from differences of interest and outlook that separate men and women. The sequence of events is clear: First, men and women began manifesting patterned differences on certain issues; and then they began voting somewhat differently, in directions dictated by party positions.

Ironically, on so-called women's issues — such as abortion, the Equal Rights Amendment, and voting for women for high public office — male-female differences have been modest. Surveys have consistently shown, for example, only slight differences on abortion, with a modestly higher proportion of men than women backing abortion under various specified circumstances.

On many social issues women have remained a bit more conservative than men. On issues involving the use of force — an

area of longstanding men-women differences — the gap has remained substantial, but probably no greater than it had been over the preceding half century. The changes, and the apparent sources of the gender gap, are elsewhere.

Differences

Perhaps the most striking area of male-female differences in outlook involves confidence in the system. Again and again, beginning in the mid to late 1970s, women have said they are less certain that the country will be strong and prosperous in the future, and less certain that the society will solve its problems and function successfully.

As noted in May of this year, for example, whether "you feel things in this country are moving in the right direction, or do you feel things are pretty seriously off on the wrong track," a slight plurality of men said "right direction," but a large plurality of women said "wrong track."

If members of a group feel vulnerable and threatened, or if they find themselves thrust into situations where present available services and protections seem inadequate, they are likely to look to government for help. Women now look to government more than men do. In a CBS News/New York Times survey in May, for example, 56 per cent of the men respondents opted for smaller government, while a plurality of women, 46 per cent endorsed more services.

The huge expansion over the past quarter century in the num-

ber of women in the work force, which added new demands and problems as well as providing new opportunities, may have contributed to women's greater sense of need for governmental assistance. In addition, the growth in female-headed, single-parent families undoubtedly adds to the dissatisfaction among women.

Majority

The gender gap is real, but the question of how much it is likely to determine the outcome of the 1988 presidential election is still hard to answer.

This may change in 1988, of course. For the first time, we may have an election where a majority of men vote Republican, a majority of women Democratic. But such a result can't confidently be predicted.

Both Michael Dukakis and George Bush will be trying to gain a majority — among men and women alike — and one of them may well succeed. Finally, the gender gap can be read both ways — as reflecting a Democratic advantage among women, or a Republican advantage among men. The February to June ATS surveys showed Republicans outnumbering Democrats by 39 to 26 per cent among men, but trailing 32 to 37 per cent among women in the 18-to-29 age bracket. Which is the more striking figure, the GOP's 13-point margin on the male side or the Democrats' 5-point margin among women?

What is clear is that gender has now taken its place among the group differences that are a regular and significant part of the US political scene. The Christian Science Monitor.



International drug war

US is driven into defensive

By Bernd Debusmann

WASHINGTON, (Reuters): The survey also indicates that crop yields have declined by 25 to 30 per cent, due to difficulties in obtaining fertilizers and new seed varieties. The report also notes an acute shortage of oxen needed to till the soil.

The report concludes that present agricultural production in Afghanistan is insufficient to support the existing population, let alone over 5.5 million returning refugees. Gul estimated that it could take two or three years to rebuild the infrastructure to produce enough food, but that much would depend on the security situation.

"Security is the main problem. It will be difficult to carry on reconstruction if there is still fighting," he said. He also observed that Afghans would have to contend with between 3 million and 5 million mines dispersed in the countryside.

The survey was conducted over a 12-month period in resistance-held areas and 49 Pakistani refugee camps. It was based on interviews with 20,000 families in 1,300 rural communities.

Risks

According to Gul, the survey did not include areas controlled by the government because of the risks involved. The 68 researchers who infiltrated Afghanistan faced enormous risks when working inside. Even in peacetime, they would have to travel by foot and by horse across mountainous and desert terrain in many areas, but the war made it exceptionally hazardous.

"One (researcher) was shot. Another got caught by the Kabul government and is still in jail, and 12 got ambushed," Gul said.

In a recent interview with Reuters, Wroblewski rejected sug-

gestions of US financial aid in crop substitution and building rural infrastructures to allow Latin American peasants to grow and market corn or soya instead of coca.

"Why should the US pay compensation? We compensate marijuana growers in California for fields that are destroyed. Why should we take a different attitude in Bolivia?"

US policies under the Reagan administration have emphasised law enforcement, eradication of drug fields abroad and interception and seizure of smuggled drugs.

According to a recent White House report, the US spent more than 7.5 times as much on enforcement, eradication and interdiction than on efforts to reduce demand between 1981 and 1988: \$12.5 billion compared with \$1.65 billion.

For many narcotics experts, such figures mean the United States has been fighting in the wrong places, with the wrong weapons.

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) reports that areas under cultivation for drug crops in Latin America have grown relentlessly. Stable or falling US prices for cocaine and heroin indicate the flood of drugs continues unabated.

"One field of coca bushes is destroyed somewhere in South America, another one is planted just as quickly. One drug kingpin is arrested and extradited to the US, another takes his place," said DEA spokesman Robert Feldkamp.

Narcotics officials agree that the arrest of Colombian drug lord Carlos Lehder, sentenced to life imprisonment plus 135 years in Florida, has not denied cocaine shipments.

Drugs are a key topic in the presidential campaign, and a new drug bill, yet to come to the Senate, emphasises discouraging drug use. A bill to apply the death penalty in certain drug-linked murders is also likely to become

law. But narcotics agents are wary of campaign promises as they are of election year bills. Those in the front line of the war tend to view politicians with suspicion.

"Every election year" gumblies one senior DEA agent, drug issues surface from the bottom of priorities to number one. Look at the 1986 (congressional) elections. They passed a bill that promised more money. A year later, with everybody safely re-elected, they cut \$100 million from the Coast Guard.

That reduced coast guard patrols by half. At the same time, money was cut from education programmes. Now, the Coast Guard is getting an additional \$60 million. The net cut is still \$40 million.

Campaign statements by Vice-President George Bush, the Republican Party candidate in the Nov 8 elections suggest that he favours continuing the policies of the Reagan administration.

Bush's Democratic rival, Massachusetts governor Michael Dukakis, is developing a national version of a programme in his state which expanded drug education and improved treatment of addicts.

Some independent analysts predict that once elected, either of the candidates would face tremendous pressure to crack down on the supply side abroad.

Ted Carpenter, of the Cato Institute, a Washington think tank, said politicians could be tempted to turn to methods likely to get media attention: "Banning other governments, for example. Education, in contrast, is not visible."

Two recent opinion polls underscore the point: In one survey, more Americans named drugs the nation's most urgent problem than any other issue. In a second poll, four out of five favoured using the armed forces to stop drug smuggling.

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"Every election year" gumblies one senior DEA agent, drug issues surface from the bottom of priorities to number one. Look at the 1986 (congressional) elections. They passed a bill that promised more money. A year later, with everybody safely re-elected, they cut \$100 million from the Coast Guard.

That reduced coast guard patrols by half. At the same time, money was cut from education programmes. Now, the Coast Guard is getting an additional \$60 million. The net cut is still \$40 million.

Campaign statements by Vice-President George Bush, the Republican Party candidate in the Nov 8 elections suggest that he favours continuing the policies of the Reagan administration.

Bush's Democratic rival, Massachusetts governor Michael Dukakis, is developing a national version of a programme in his state which expanded drug education and improved treatment of addicts.

Some independent analysts predict that once elected, either of the candidates would face tremendous pressure to crack down on the supply side abroad.

Ted Carpenter, of the Cato Institute, a Washington think tank, said politicians could be tempted to turn to methods likely to get media attention: "Banning other governments, for example. Education, in contrast, is not visible."

Two recent opinion polls underscore the point: In one survey, more Americans named drugs the nation's most urgent problem than any other issue. In a second poll, four out of five favoured using the armed forces to stop drug smuggling.

"My life is not oriented toward politics," he said. "I am a chemist. Obviously, I can't escape completely either, with respect to the family and what I feel about the rehabilitation. More than anything, I want them (the Soviet government) to reinstate the historical truth."

He said he is pressing now because of changes under Mikhail Gorbachev's policy of "glasnost."

"There are many of them. It won't be that easy to erase Stalin's footprints."

Grandson wants to clear Trotsky's name

place in the Soviet Union is very interesting, but I vacillate between extreme optimism and pessimism," he said.

"Personally, I feel changed when I read the press and see that there are a lot of changes, there is more openness. But at the same time I see that there are still many, many traces, spiritual sons of Stalin."

"There are many of them. It won't be that easy to erase Stalin's footprints."

TODAY IN HISTORY

480 — Greeks defeat Persians in naval battle of Salamis in Aegean Sea.

1519 — Portuguese navigator Ferdinand Magellan sets sail from Spain on global voyage to find Western passage to India. One of his ships circles the world.

1530 — Martin Luther advises German Protestant princes to prepare for war rather than to accept compromise with Holy Roman Empire.

1857 — Delhi in India is captured by British after siege since June.

1870 — National unification of Italy is achieved.

1945 — All-India Congress Committee under Mahatma Gandhi and Pandit Nehru meets and rejects British proposals for self-government, calling on British to quit India.

1960 — Thirteen newly independent African nations and former British colony of Cyprus are admitted to United Nations.

1962 — Southern Rhodesia declares Zimbabwe African People's Union as unlawful body.

1963 — US President John F. Kennedy goes before UN General Assembly and proposes joint US-Soviet expedition to moon.

1972 — Explosive devices concealed in envelopes and mailed to Israeli officials are discovered in at least six cities around world.

1974 — Estimated death toll is put at thousands as Hurricane Iannis Central American nation of Honduras.

1977 — Vietnam is admitted to United Nations.

1978 — South Africa's Prime Minister John Vorster announces his resignation.

1987 — Indian government warns Tamil rebel groups in Sri Lanka to end bloody feuding that has marred peace efforts.



Jackson (left) has a rebuilt chin, and (right) the famous Peter-Pan profile. Some surgeons say his nose is beginning to show signs of drooping and may need to be rebuilt for a third time.

Plastic surgeons say his face is degenerating



The changing face of Michael Jackson

By Garry Jenkins

THE much photographed much worked on face of superstar Michael Jackson was the centre of attention again last week.

For once his re-modelled features were not masked by heavy sunglasses, pollution-repelling handkerchief or stage make-up.

And the naked truth recalled reports from American plastic surgeons who have said that Jackson's face, starved of bone-building minerals, is degenerating.

In London, the star's Peter Pan profile was a disappointment for his fans when he made a rare personal appearance. His skin was blotchy and glistening with sweat. His cheeks and his rebuilt chin were puffy and a coin-shaped plaster decorated his cheek.

Jackson was posing for photographs at a hotel, where he was collecting an award from Wembley Stadium for an unprecedented sell-out on seven nights.

Some plastic surgeons say his nose is beginning to show signs of drooping and may need to be rebuilt for a third time.

However, a British plastic



How he has changed over the years via plastic surgery.

surgeon detected only 'minuscule' changes when he inspected



Michael Jackson: is his face really crumpling?

the same," said Harley Street specialist Mr John Chetrum. Comparing the pictures with ones charting the changes in Jackson's face over the past five years, he said: "There might be minuscule changes compared with photos taken in, say, 1985. This could be loss of weight — and that would be understandable given the energy he expends on stage — or it could be the maturing of the plastic surgery."

All in all, Mr Chetrum gave the battle-scarred Jackson face the all-clear. "I actually think he looks more mature and more rugged," he said.

In the past a string of operations unlikely to have cost less than 100,000 dollars have altered Jackson's looks. His skin has been lightened, his nose chiselled, his lips flattened, his chin transformed.

Love all in Seoul

The Olympic Games in Seoul will play cupid for a pair of star-crossed lovers from China and South Korea whose countries have no diplomatic relations.

By Moses Manoharan

SEOUL. (Reuter): Cupid will triumph briefly over politics for a pair of star-crossed lovers at the Seoul Olympics.

For leading table tennis players Jiao Zhimin of China and Ahn Jae-Hyung of South Korea, the course of true love has yet to run smooth.

Jiao, a favourite for the women's singles gold medal, and Ahn, a medal candidate for the men's doubles, are a modern, sporting Romeo and Juliet.

They want to marry but their countries have no diplomatic relations so they are able to arrange only the occasional tryst at international table tennis tournaments. Otherwise, they are believed to make do with the occasional love letter.

Their liaison is frowned on by their governments and their national table tennis federations.

The secretary-general of the Chinese National Olympic Committee, Wei Jizhong, said the Chinese sporting authorities discouraged leading sports figures from marrying during their competitive careers in case it caused a loss of form.

He added that sport in China was regarded as part of the national image-building process in which successful competitors were expected to help form a favourable impression of China among foreigners.

Wei said of Jiao: "I heard she is in love with a South Korean. But we advise her to be cautious in choosing a life partner. In Jiao's case, marrying a South Korean will become more than a

sporting issue. It will become a political problem for us."

Jiao, a 24-year-old teacher, and Ahn, a 23-year-old insurance company employee, fell in love when they met at the Asian Championships in Islamabad four years ago.

As the lovers put the finishing touches to their Olympic preparations in training camps in China and South Korea respectively, the South Korean newspaper Daily Sports reported:

"(Their) love is a tale as old as Romeo and Juliet. Jiao has a different ideology, but she wants marriage after the Olympics if her government will allow it."

Jiao plunged deeper into controversy when she was named as China's top-ranked women's singles competitor at the Games after the Chinese sports authorities caused a furore by declining to select world champion He Zhen.

Wei said He was not selected because of her weakness against South Korean opponents. Ironically, Jiao's biggest Olympic rival will be Yang Yong-Ja, Ahn's South Korean compatriot.

A second thwarted suitor in the Chinese table tennis team is world men's singles champion Jiang Jialiang, who has been obliged to delay his marriage to glamorous Chinese actress Wu Yu Fang.

Wu is nearly as popular in China as Jiang, a 23-year-old Peking University student who is spearheading his country's bid to retain its table tennis supremacy.

Jiang is reported to have said



China's medal hopes rest with their table tennis players, but love may get in the way.

he wants to marry as early as possible. But Wei appeared to thwart his ardour when he said: "We have discouraged him from marrying at present because it

will affect his form.

"Under Chinese law, you can marry anyone you like. But a sportsman without discipline is no sportsman at all."

Dog-soup off menu during Olympic Games

By Paul Holmes

SEOUL: The sign in the rundown eating place outside Seoul billed it as 'posh'ing ang — health soup — and its main ingredient was boiled, shredded dog.

A pungent smell, reminiscent of well-hung animal flesh, pervaded the tiny eatery and a covered stew pot simmered gently outside as a temptation to passing trade.

But posh'ing ang, savoured by many South Koreans as an energy-enhancer, boost for pregnant women and cure for ills, was not to be had.

"Why are you talking to these people? Tell them you're not selling dog meat," chided

the owner, who had burst in to find the cook steering this Western reporter and two South Korean escorts through the intricacies of cooking dog.

She then ripped down the sign and the party was made to leave.

Authorities in South Korea, sensitive to the country's image in the world spotlight during the Olympics, are forcing hundreds of dogmeat restaurants and traders in and around Seoul to close as foreigners pour in for the Games.

The basic ingredient can usually be bought either live or ready-butchered in the bustling markets of South Korea where cages of live animals battle for space with sacks of herbs,

"I now sell my dogs to middlemen. It's not my concern what happens to them," the man said.

His puppies, fattened on instant noodles and chicken innards and sold for 25,000 won (\$36), are kept in low, wooden-framed sheds covered in plastic and blankets that block out most of the light.

According to the cook at the eatery, it is from farms like this that many restaurants get their supplies.

Conditions would appal animal-rights campaigners. But the government, while striving to stamp out the custom of eating dog meat, has said the campaigners want too much too quickly.

555-FIRST CLASS VALUE



Government Warning: Smoking is a major cause of cancer and diseases of the lungs, heart and arteries.

German fashions becoming popular

COLOGNE (INP): Men's fashion from the Federal Republic of Germany is becoming more and more popular on international markets. The latest figures underline this: in 1987, exports represented 33.9 per cent of the total turnover; for the first four months of this year, orders received from abroad increased by 17.6 per cent.

The reasons for this positive development are the short delivery times of German manufacturers, the qualitatively outstanding and highly fashionable goods, the good finish and last but not least, an increasing fashion consciousness among males.

Last year, German men spent 19 billion DM on clothes. Suits and above all, jackets made of light materials such as natural silk, cotton and linen are popular. Next year too, casual jackets will be in great demand.

Leisure-time fashion is continuing to expand underlined by imaginative colour descriptions such as "Surge", "Beach" or "Dune". Trousers will remain casual and comfortable. Contrasting linings, small

embroidered applications and striped designs lend a casual touch to blue-silver, brown-beige and green shades — fashion in a new direction.

The German men's clothing industry with around 35,700 employees is also attempting to gain a foothold in markets outside the European Community. Recently, 20 manufacturers from the Federal Republic of Germany presented their collections in the Soviet Union and received a lot of attention. Men's fashion items worth more than 4.3 billion DM were exported abroad; imports amounted to 1.6 billion DM.

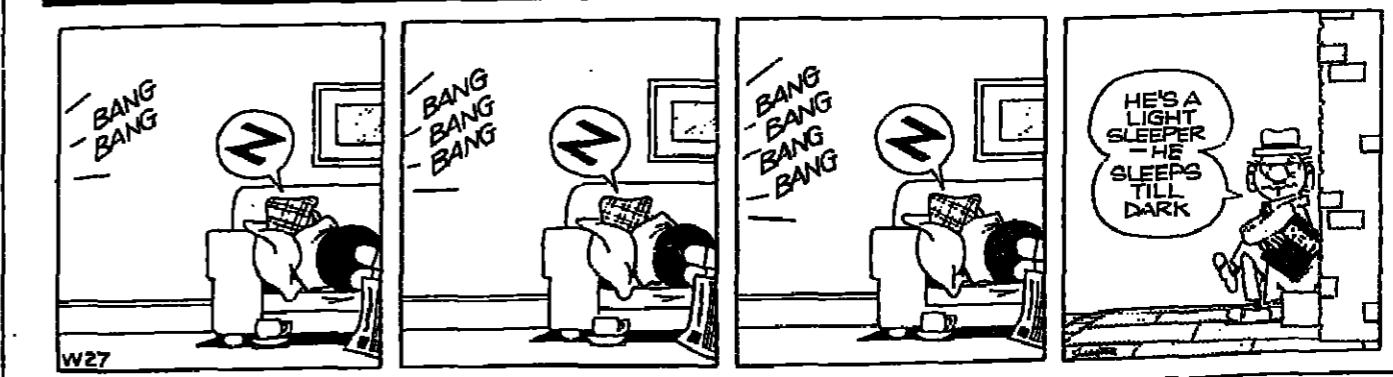
For 20 years now, Cologne — the "World Capital of Men's Fashion" — has staged four fairs every year — which are being attended by more and more foreign firms. Almost 1,200 companies from 40 countries for instance, presented their collections at the International Men's Fashion Week in August 1988. The textile branch in nearby Dusseldorf has concentrated more on ladies' fashion — with the IGEDO enjoying an international reputation.

Sigrid Schwarzwald



Leisure fashions for men from Germany are a booming export item.

ANDY CAPP



By Smith

Richest treasure trove in the Western hemisphere

Archaeologists strike gold in Peru

By Rebecca Kolberg

WASHINGTON, (UPI): A Peruvian tomb that evaded looters for 1,500 years has yielded the richest archaeological find in the Western hemisphere — a dazzling trove of gold and jewels that rival the treasures of ancient Greece, it was announced last week.

A 2-foot-wide (0.6-m-wide), solid gold headdress, a warrior's golden backflap weighing almost 2 pounds (0.9 kg) and a string of gold bells showing a god lopping off human heads are just a fraction of the riches found in the grave of a warrior-priest of the Moche culture.

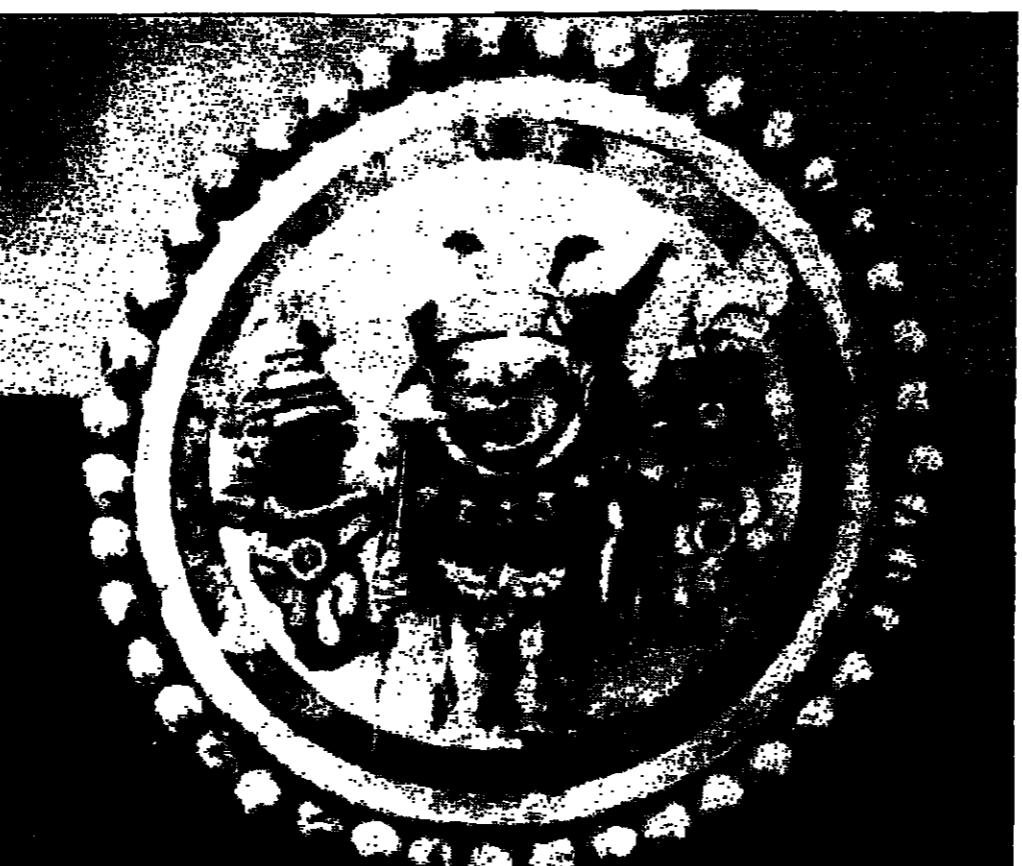
"The real richness is in information it contains. But in material terms, just in terms of gold objects and jewellery, this tomb contains the greatest quantity as well as the quality of gold jewellery that we've ever seen come from an archaeologically excavated tomb in the Americas," said Christopher Donnan, an anthropology professor at the University of California, Los Angeles, said.

Donnan was part of the team, funded by the National Geographic Society under the direction of the Peruvian government, that excavated the lavish burial mound near Sipan on the north coast of Peru.

Archaeologists were alerted to the tomb's existence after an



Walter Alva (right) and an assistant, work in the 1500-year-old tomb of a warrior priest of the Moche civilisation in the Peruvian coastal village of Sipan.



About the size of a man's thumb, this gold and turquoise warrior with moving parts may be the finest single item of jewellery from pre-Columbian America.

adjoining grave was looted and a large quantity of finely-wrought gold jewellery flooded the black market for stolen, ancient treasures.

In April 1987, Walter Alva, director of the Brunning Archaeological Museum in Lambayeque, Peru, sent a team of archaeologists to the looted tomb to salvage what artifacts the robbers had left behind and to clean up the site.

A few months into the efforts, the archaeologist noticed a depression that appeared to have been filled in with earth in ancient times and ordered that spot excavated.

That order led to a dramatic discovery — a mausoleum containing the body of a richly-clad Moche lord, as well as those of two other men, two women and a dog believed to have been part of the royal entourage.

The Moche preceded the

Inca culture by hundreds of years, dominating the northern coast of Peru from about A.D. 100-800 and producing superb jewellery from locally mined gold and from shells and stone imported from as far north as Ecuador and as far south as Chile.

This jewellery is just unsurpassed in the exquisite craftsmanship and technical virtuosity of the artisans who created it," said Donnan, noting that some of the mosaic inlay, beadwork and goldwork is so minute it would almost take a magnifying glass to fashion the design.

Archaeologists would not give a dollar estimate for the cache of gold and jewels found at the Peruvian tomb. Thirty items went on display in Washington, and the bulk of the collection is now being examined, restored and

catalogued in Peru.

Donnan said the Moche tomb's treasure surpasses that of two previous contenders for the richest archaeological site in the Americas: the jade-laden tomb of Pacal at Palenque, Mexico, and a gold-rich excavation at Monte Alban, Mexico.

The Moche treasure is even impressive by worldwide standards, Donnan said, noting that it "compares very favourably" with the magnificent gold jewellery unearthed from tombs near the ancient city of Mycenae in Greece.

But the anthropologist conceded that even the splendour of the Peruvian site pales in comparison to the copious riches found in the tomb of the famed Egyptian king, Tutankhamen. "I don't think anything can compare with that," Donnan said.

Remains of prehistoric village unearthed in Turkey

By Dagny S. Bilkadi

THE remains of three 10,000-year-old stone buildings unearthed near the headwaters of the Tigris River by a team of American and Turkish archaeologists, may be the oldest examples of public buildings yet found anywhere in the world.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of a unique collaboration — the Joint Prehistoric Project of the Universities of Chicago and Istanbul — formed to search for the beginnings of agriculture and settled village life in the foothills of the mountains ringing Mesopotamia. Project co-directors Dr Robert Braidwood of the University of Chicago; his wife, Linda, of Chicago's Oriental Institute; and Halil Cambel of the Prehistory Department of Istanbul University chose to begin at a little mound called Cayonu in the foothills of the Taurus Mountains in southeastern Turkey.

What they discovered was a prehistoric farming village.

This site is distinguished from similar sites in the Middle East by the remains of the stone buildings, believed to be the earliest community structures yet found.

The craftsmanship in the construction of the buildings — including a polished terrazzo floor and a slab with a carving of a human face — so surprised the team that at first they thought they might have found Greco-Roman ruins. "The building appears to be the first evidence that once people began controlling their food supply through agriculture, social change accelerated at a rate much faster than archaeologists had previously envisioned," Dr Braidwood says.

Cayonu was inhabited from about 7250 to 6750 BC, a time when the environment was favorable for both specialised hunting-collecting and simple food production. The village, about 20 per cent of which has now been excavated, had a population of about 500 and

boasted domesticated wheat and pulses. For animal protein, the villagers hunted a now-extinct breed of wild cattle. Evidence of domesticated livestock appeared only in the latest phase of the settlement.

The villagers did not make pottery, but they did experiment with the use of copper. Cold-hammered native copper tools found at the site, including small pins and hooks, are the world's first substantial evidence of the use of worked copper (Cayonu lies barely 20 kilometres (12 1/2 miles) down slope from a copper lode that is still being mined).

The residents of Cayonu also experimented with the use of cement for construction, making Cayonu a very technologically sophisticated community for its time.

"We had simply not anticipated the remarkably preserved foundations of houses, the formality of the settlement plan, the existence of public buildings, and the highly developed construction skills of people only on the threshold of effective food production," says Braidwood.

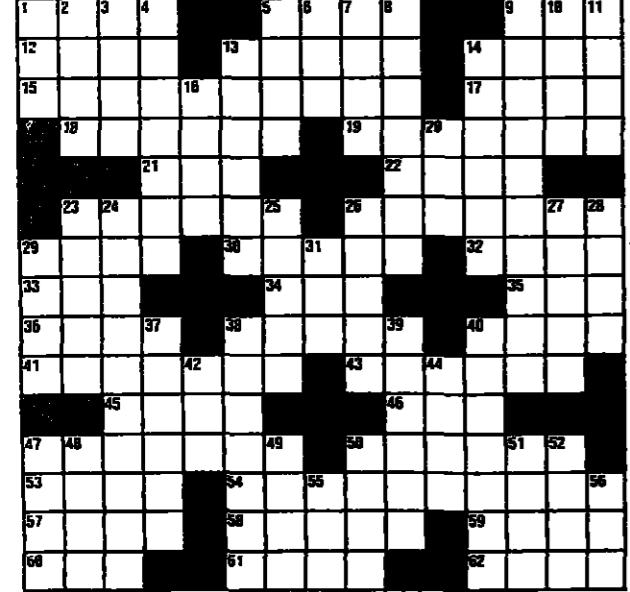
All three of the public buildings lie in the eastern part of the settlement and are roughly the same size. Each had a large room with the entrance apparently facing south. The flat roofs were supported by stone foundation walls with upper portions of sun-dried mud brick. There is evidence of careful plastering on some of the inner walls; traces of red paint still exist in one room. Plasters had been placed in the walls, and in one building they were aligned with broken butts of limestone slabs that apparently served as columns for roof support. Special attention had been given to the floors, which were sumptuous for the time.

The first building found in 1964 had a smooth and well-fitted flagstone floor. The second one, excavated in 1970, had a true terrazzo floor of salmon-coloured limestone with pairs of lines of white limestone chips, set in alignment with pilasters in the walls. The earliest evidence of the bull's-head-and-horns motif was from 1,500 years later, when it appeared painted on early Middle Eastern pottery.

The biggest question remaining for the Joint Prehistoric Project is how to account for a village of the size and architectural complexity of Cayonu at a time when the inhabitants still had to depend on hunting for their supply of animal protein.

1988. The Christian Science Monitor.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦K9865 ♠8 ♦96532 ♣43 Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦AK98742 ♠83 ♦AQ102 ♣Void Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦AK98742 ♠83 ♦AQ102 ♣Void Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦AQ6 ♠AK42 ♠84 ♣AQ6 The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

4 ♠ Pass 5 ♠ Pass

What action do you take?

Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦AQ6 ♠Q72 ♦QJ52 ♣A43 Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

Q.6—Neither vulnerable as South you hold:

♦K964 ♠83 ♦103 ♣Q62 The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 NT Pass

What action do you take?

Q.7—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦AK98742 ♠83 ♦AQ102 ♣Void Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

Q.8—Neither vulnerable as South you hold:

♦K964 ♠83 ♦103 ♣Q62 The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 NT Pass

What action do you take?

Q.9—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦AK98742 ♠83 ♦AQ102 ♣Void Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

Q.10—Neither vulnerable as South you hold:

♦K964 ♠83 ♦103 ♣Q62 The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 NT Pass

What action do you take?

Q.11—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦AK98742 ♠83 ♦AQ102 ♣Void Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

Q.12—Neither vulnerable as South you hold:

♦K964 ♠83 ♦103 ♣Q62 The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 NT Pass

What action do you take?

Q.13—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦AK98742 ♠83 ♦AQ102 ♣Void Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

Q.14—Neither vulnerable as South you hold:

♦K964 ♠83 ♦103 ♣Q62 The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 NT Pass

What action do you take?

Q.15—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦AK98742 ♠83 ♦AQ102 ♣Void Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

Q.16—Neither vulnerable as South you hold:

♦K964 ♠83 ♦103 ♣Q62 The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 NT Pass

What action do you take?

Q.17—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦AK98742 ♠83 ♦AQ102 ♣Void Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

Q.18—Neither vulnerable as South you hold:

♦K964 ♠83 ♦103 ♣Q62 The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 NT Pass

What action do you take?

Q.19—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦AK98742 ♠83 ♦AQ102 ♣Void Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

Q.20—Neither vulnerable as South you hold:

♦K964 ♠83 ♦103 ♣Q62 The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 NT Pass

What action do you take?

Q.21—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦AK98742 ♠83 ♦AQ102 ♣Void Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

Q.22—Neither vulnerable as South you hold:

♦K964 ♠83 ♦103 ♣Q62 The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 NT Pass

What action do you take?

Q.23—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦AK98742 ♠83 ♦AQ102 ♣Void Partner opens the bidding with one heart. What do you respond?

Q.24—Neither vulnerable as South you hold:

♦K964 ♠83 ♦103 ♣Q62 The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 NT Pass

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Cheysson begins 2-day visit to Algeria

ALGIERS, Sept. 19. (Reuters): European Economic Community (EEC) Commissioner Claude Cheysson has begun a two-day visit to Algeria to review improving trade links between the West European bloc and the North African state.

Cheysson is the second senior EEC official to visit Algiers this year. EEC commission president Jacques Delors broke the ice in January after a period in which relations stagnated.

The Algerian APS news agency said former French Foreign Minister Cheysson — now responsible for EEC relations with Mediterranean countries — was met by Deputy Foreign Minister Mohamed Aberkane at Algiers airport on Sunday evening.

"I have come here to see in the most precise manner the state of relations between Algeria and the community," Cheysson was quoted by APS as saying in an arrival statement.

Algeria, in common with other North African states, has been concerned at the effects on non-EEC states of plans to create a single barrier-free market within the community by 1992.

Imports
Algerian trade with all 12 community countries fell sharply in the mid-1980s when Algeria slashed imports in an austerity period prompted by a slump in the price of oil, its main export.

The two sides are linked by a 1976 trade accord which offers free access to the community for all non-agricultural Algerian products. Algiers also receives grants totalling some \$262 million.

EEC exports to Algeria, mainly food and consumer goods, fell by more than half from \$7.8 billion in 1985 to 4.3 billion last year. During the same period Algerian exports dropped from \$11.2 billion to 4.7 billion.

Japan to raise oil stockpile to 190m barrels

ABU DHABI, Sept. 19. (Reuters): Japan will increase its state oil stockpile by 20 million barrels to 190 million in the next six months, the chairman of the Japanese National Oil Corporation said today.

"Our policy is to continue plans to increase our crude oil stockpile, which now accounts for 170 million barrels," or 43 days' national consumption, Hashimoto Toshikazu told reporters during a visit to the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Private Japanese companies have stockpiled twice as much as the government's existing stocks, he added.

Oil prices have slumped this year and are now about \$6 below the official Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries price of \$18 a barrel.

Demand
Toshikazu said Japan's oil demand of about four million barrels a day would decline by five per cent in the next five years or so because of greater efficiency in energy use.

The official WAM news agency said Toshikazu, who earlier visited Oman and is due to go to Egypt and Saudi Arabia, discussed the oil market with Oil Minister Mana Said Al Oteiba. The agency gave no details of the talks.

Toshikazu also met Abu Dhabi National Oil Corporation (ADNOC) chairman Suhail Fabris Al Mazru. ADNOC officials said they discussed setting up an oil research centre and other projects.

Five countries will suffer economic downturns

Bank sees deteriorating conditions in Latin America

WASHINGTON, Sept. 19. (Reuters): Latin America's debt-battered economies were overwhelmed by financial problems last year that seem to be only getting worse, the International Development Bank said yesterday.

The bank, in its annual assessment of social and economic conditions in the region, said the crisis was hitting the poor the hardest as countries slashed spending on social programmes.

Bank president Enrique Iglesias told reporters "the situation in Latin America continues to deteriorate with 1987 being worse than 1986 and our preliminary estimates indicating that probably this year will be substantially worse than last year."

Bank officials said that figures for the first half of 1988 indicate that five countries in Latin America — Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Venezuela and Peru — economic downturns

Bid to ease debt burden

Third World may seek help at IMF

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 19. (Reuters): The Third World's calls for help with its \$1.2 trillion debt burden are likely to be louder than ever at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank annual meetings in West Berlin this week.

Six years ago, the world's bankers discovered they had a debt crisis when their fears of a possible Mexican default sent them scurrying to engineer a \$10 billion financial rescue.

Perform

Since then, the total of Third World debt has doubled.

"Creditors must recognise that unless they work towards new solutions more favourable to debtors, they will face a serious problem," said Mexican Finance Minister Gustavo Petricoli.

Now, Argentina, Ecuador and Venezuela are on the point of yet

another negotiation with banks, seeking to postpone due dates on debt. Two countries which so far had avoided such reschedulings, Trinidad and Colombia, may have to take that step soon, bankers say.

Other countries, such as Liberia and Sierra Leone, say they are too poor to repay — and don't. Zambia has refused to accept reform programmes dictated by the IMF.

"If Africa's creditors insist that we pay now, we will not pay because we can't pay and this is not defiance but inability to pay," Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda said last May.

At that time, he proposed that creditors grant a 20-year grace period on Africa's \$200 billion of debt.

Earlier this month, the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) suggested a 30 per cent cut in commercial bank debt of 15 major debtors.

"There is a need for more debt cancellation of one sort or another," says Zimbabwe Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero.

Fund

"The problem is that different creditor countries favour different measures. What we have is a menu when it would be better if governments adopted a more coherent approach," said Christopher Johnson, chief economic adviser Lloyds Bank Plc in London.

At the Group of Seven industrial nations' Toronto summit in June, Japanese Finance Minister Kichi Miyazawa proposed setting up a trust fund with creditor nation deposits to help debtor countries finance repayments of

existing debt.

France and West Germany have supported writing off Third World loans while Britain favours concessions on interest rates paid by some of the poorest debtor nations.

"If something is not done the problem will only get greater and the debt burden larger," said British Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson earlier this month.

"It is better to sort it out now and get those countries following the right policies rather than let it fester," he said.

Approach

But some bankers and officials do not believe there should be a world-wide approach.

"Across-the-board solutions are not effective and tend to confuse the issues, provoking automatic rejection," said Mexico's chief debt negotiator, Angel Gurria.

Washington continues to support a case-by-case approach of reschedulings accompanied by new loans linked to economic reforms — the pattern set by Mexico's 1982 rescue package.

Such reforms are typically a condition of any IMF credits and often involve such austerity measures as government spending cuts and currency devaluations to make imports more costly.

They have sparked strong political opposition in several Third World countries.

And UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has said economic reforms agreed by African nations in return for loans required great public sacrifice with scant reward, and the problems were compounded by drought, plagues and floods.

IDB credit package

JEDDAH, Sept. 19. (OPECNA): The executive council of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) has approved \$79.13 million in new project financing, foreign trade transactions and special programme assistance.

The council, which began its 100th session here on Monday, also allocated \$28.46 million for five project financing in Gambia, Somalia, Benin, Oman, Egypt and Guinea.

World Business Summary

Nations' sales tax must be smoothed, say ministers

ELOUNDA, Greece, Sept. 19. (AP): European finance ministers struggled yesterday over ways to smooth their widely varying sales taxes in part of an effort to create a barrier-free market in 1992. The finance ministers, representing the 12 nations of the European Economic Community, did not settle on a single tax plan during a day of informal talks in Elounda, a resort town on the Greek island of Crete. Nigel Lawson, Britain's Chancellor of the Exchequer, cautioned that the bid to create a barrier-free market "is going to run into the sands" without changes in the tax-streamlining proposals. Other finance ministers said, however, that there was general agreement that the countries' sales taxes must be smoothed. "This discussion was extremely constructive ... (and) a very complex one," Greek Economics Minister Panayiotis Rousmelidis said. The finance ministers meet twice a year in an informal setting to discuss financial and monetary issues. Widely varying sales taxes in Europe have led to shoppers crossing borders to buy cheaper goods in neighbouring countries. Britain, for example, applies no sales tax to food and baby clothing. But levies on luxury items can top 30 per cent in some countries. The ministers focused on a proposal put forward by the EEC staff to bring more in line the nations' indirect taxes, such as the Value-Added Tax.

N. Yemen to boost oil output

NICOSIA, Cyprus, Sept. 19. (AP): North Yemen plans to increase its oil production to around 200,000 barrels a day by the end of the year and hold it at that "for the foreseeable future," the Middle East Economic Survey reported today. The respected oil industry newsletter, published in Nicosia, said in a report by executive editor Walid Khadduri that current output from the Alif and Azal fields is running at 180,000 barrels a day. North Yemen's production is not likely to affect oil prices or global production levels amid efforts by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries to enforce quota discipline on its member states. Oil was first discovered in North Yemen, one of the Arab world's most primitive countries, in 1984 by the Hunt Oil Co. of Dallas, Texas. It is developing the fields in partnership with Exxon and South Korean companies. The weekly survey reported that the government plans to enhance its oil industry, prospecting for new fields and studying schemes to utilise natural gas reserves.



Piers Jacobs

that Hong Kong's small, open economy was easily affected by its bigger trading partners.

"We are affected by external events beyond our control and in this situation it is clearly incumbent upon the government to do all that it can to ensure that we are able to adapt to the new challenges that arise," he said.

"This will not always be easy, and may on occasions be somewhat painful. But if we continue to plan and act with the longer term in view, there is no reason why we should be deflected from our quest for a stable and prosperous life for our whole community."

Jacobs chose "inter-dependence" as his theme, pointing out that Hong Kong's small, open economy was easily affected by its bigger trading partners.

Far from being worried about

the slowing down in the economy, Jacobs said: "Following two years of exceptional growth, the economy requires a period of consolidation." He added: "With this slower growth rate, both the tight labour market and inflationary pressures should ease in due course, though possibly not during this year."

Jacobs said he expected domestic exports for 1988 to increase by 6 per cent, in line with his March budget estimates, but re-exports should increase by 35 per cent, almost three times his forecast, reflecting the growing importance of Hong Kong as a middleman in trade with China.

Exports

As a result, he expects the Crown Colony's total exports to increase by 20 per cent to HK\$471.7 billion.

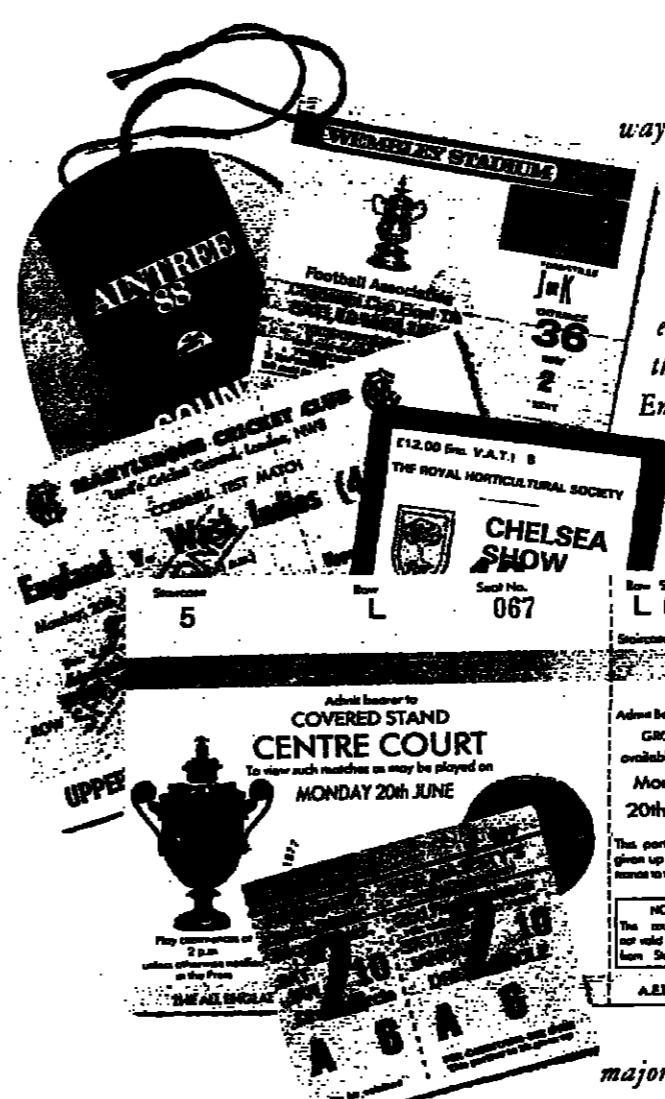
The Financial Secretary said imports should rise by 20 per cent to HK\$478.1 billion this year, almost double his budget estimate.

Last week's speech was a far cry from the self-congratulatory oratory of a year ago, when Jacobs chose "business confidence" as his mid-year theme "because I feel that so much has happened this year that is a manifestation of genuine and long-lasting confidence in the future of

Hong Kong." Those words returned to haunt Jacobs with a vengeance when one month later stock markets around the world went into decline, and the Hong Kong exchange shut for four days.

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than in 1980 in most countries of the region.

The report said the rate of economic growth dropped from the 3.6 per cent average achieved in 1984 through 1986 to only 2.6 per cent in 1987.

It said that in 1987 three of the region's four largest economies — Argentina, Mexico and Venezuela — grew less than two per cent and Brazil's rate was just under three per cent.

The bank said that while the region is struggling with economic crisis and social dislocation, it has implemented sweeping economic reforms.

Seeking new ways to earn foreign exchange to allow it to pay its debts and import badly needed goods, the region has increased the amount and the kind of products it exports.

In part, this reflected Mexico's experience in the early 1980s, when its economy was rocked by a slump in the price of oil, its main source of export earnings.

Since then, with the develop-

ing banks looking on, the region has attempted to diversify exports, looking for a variety of ways of earning foreign exchange.

The report said that Latin America increased its volume of exports by 4.4 per cent annually in the 1980s, compared with a 2.6 per cent growth rate in world trade.

In 1987, Latin America's volume of exports reached an unprecedented high, moving up 35 per cent over 1986.

Governments in the region also continued belt-tightening efforts, notably by cutting their budget deficits. In some countries — Bolivia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Uruguay — the cuts have been dramatic, the report said.

Despite efforts at reform, funds continued to flow out of the region as countries repaid their loans but were not able to get much new money to help finance development.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 1988

International Bond Highlites

Amsterdam — The General Electric Co. is issuing a 9-1/8 pct, 500 min dlr, five year Eurobond at 101.375 pct. Frankfurt, Zurich, London — Volkswagen International Finance NV is issuing a 300 min mark 10-year 6-1/2 pct equity warrant bond, a 230 min Swiss franc three pct 12-year warrant bond, and a 120 min dlr 10 year 9-3/4 pct bond, the respective lead managers said. (RTY 1446, RTYE 1446, RTYH 1501)

Bonn — Foreigners will be allowed to make primary purchases of West German Bundesobligationen saving bonds from Oct. 3, the Finance Ministry said in a statement. (RTV 0842)

Frankfurt — The World Bank is issuing a 10-year 15 billion peseta Eurobond with a 10-3/8 pct coupon priced at 99-3/8, lead manager Deutsche Bank AG said. (RTUO 0811)

Europen — Caisse nationale des Telecommunications de Paris is launching a 200 min mark 10-year trate (WESTLB) said. (RTW 1322)

London — Toshiba International Finance (Netherlands) BV is issuing a 10 billion yen dual currency Eurobond due Oct. 5, 1989 paying seven pct and priced at 101-7/8 pct, lead manager Nomura International Ltd said. (RTYM 1504).

Interbank Rates

	CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN	10-3/8 1/4	11-11/16 9/16	12-1/4 3/16
FFT	4.80/85	4.85/95	4.90/50
PAR	7-7/16 1/2	7-5/8 3/4	7-13/16 15/16
ZUR	1-5/8 1/7/8	3 3-1/4	3-1/4 3-1/2
BRX	4.80	7-1/8 3/16	7-3/8 1/2
RON	10-3/8 10-7/8	11-1/8 11-5/8	11-3/8 11-7/8
ANS	5.57/50	5.46/56	5.50/60
TOS	3.6875 7500	4.3750 4375	4.1875 2500
ECU	7.50 7.75	7.56 7.68	7.62 7.75

Interest Rates

Period	Bld	Offered
1 month	5-13/16	6-1/16
3 months	5-7/8	6-1/8
6 months	6-1/16	6-5/16
1 year	6-1/8	6-7/16

BOMBAY

PR.CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	62-50	64-50	68	WICO	625	625	640
ACC	268	273	275	50	52.75	52.50	52.50	91	91	94.50
ASIA PAINT	172.50	175	178.75	65	106.50	105.50	105.50	665	650	670
BAWAJ. AUTO	288.75	290	293.75	156	157	161	161	30.75	33.75	33.75
BAR. RAYON	—	—	—	71	71	72.50	72.50	30.50	28	29
BON. DYING	117	119	119	HINDCOCA	105	106.25	106.25	106.25	106.25	106.25
BR. BOND	100.50	102	104	HINDMOTOR	28.75	28.25	28	RAYMOND	58	57
BSE. INDEX	620.01	621.97	621.97	IND. ORG	35.50	33	33	34.50	32.50	33
CENTURYSPEC	1032.5	1040	1040	INDRAYON	66	65.50	65	SIEMENS	86	86
COLGATE	270	265	270	INDROL	215	217.50	215	SPIC	45	46.50
DEEPAKERT	37.75	38.50	41.50	ITC	47	47	49	STOMILLS	260	265
EJ. HOTEL	51	50	52	JKSYNTH	72	74	75	TATA PWR	225	225
ESKAYEF	137.50	138.75	140	L AND T	123.50	127.50	126.50	TATACHEM	79	80
ESSAR	18	18.50	20	MARIMDRA	65	68	70	TELCO	745	755
GAR. POLY	77.50	77	77.50	MASTERSHR	10.50	10.37	10.62	TISCO	898.75	917.50
GE.SHIP	29.25	31.50	32.25	MATHER PL	53	55	61	VOLTAS	355	355

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST	PR.CLOSE
AEG	204.5	205.0
ALLIANZ VR	1663.0	1645.0
BADENWERK	179.5	179.3
BASF	273.5	269.4
BAUER	304.7	300.3
BAUER BHP	359.5	353.0
BAUER VER	355.5	348.0
BBC	520.0	315.5
BHF	443.0	434.0
BMW	509.0	505.0
CONNERZBK	245.0	237.3
CONTI GUIN	259.5	257.5
DAIMER BEN	704.2	699.0
DEUTSC. BHK	518.0	509.5
DLW	390.0	387.0
DRESDNER B	295.0	276.5
DT B&C	178.0	175.15
FAZ. INDEX	515.09	507.29
FELDMERLE	288.5	285.1
GOLDSCHMID	299.0	298.0
HARPENER	432.0	423.5
HOECHST AG	295.8	293.2
HOESCH	157.5	156.5
HORTEN	209.5	207.0
HUSSEL HLD	447.0	445.5
KALI SALZ	166.0	169.0
KARSTADT	459.0	453.0
KAUROF	390.0	384.0
KLOECK R	138.2	138.0
KLOECK W	102.5	97.5
LITDE	708.0	696.5
LUFTHANSA	145.8	142.5
MAN	216.0	211.0
MANNESMAN	181.5	174.9
MERCEDES	573.0	566.0
NETTALGES	306.0	306.0
KIXDORF PF	440.0	434.5
NOKSI HYD	55.90	55.70
PHILIP KOM	627.0	613.5
POSCHE	552.0	532.0
PREUSSAG	174.0	173.5
RHEINMETAL	299.0	300.0
RME	239.0	236.5
RME P	218.5	217.0
SLAMANDER	281.0	279.8
SCHERING	526.5	523.5
SEL	293.7	293.5
SIEMENS	466.0	460.5
THYSSEN	161.6	158.0
VARTA	295.0	286.5
VEBA	266.5	262.7
VEW	159.4	159.5
VOVSKHAGEN	263.2	263.5

TOKYO

STOCK	LAST	PR.CLOSE	MITSUB CP	1090	1080
AJIMONOTO	2970	2970	MITSUB EST	2590	2410
AKAI ELEC	590	590	MITSUB HVY	973	971
AKOI	916	925	MITSUI CO	875	871
ASAHI GLS.	1950	1930	MITSUKOSHI	1780	1800
ASAHI OPT.	658	670	MITSUI EL	1020	1040
BAND TOKYO	1530	1520	MICHICON	1320	1300
BRIDGESTON	1280	1280	NIHON CHNT	795	790
CANON	1460	1480	NIKKO SEC	1690	1680
CASIO COMP	1460	1480	NIP ELEC	2060	2060
CHUGAI PHM	1550	1550	NIP KOKAN	763	763
CITIZEN W	865	890	NIP OIL	1100	1120
D-ICHI KAN	2830	2810	NIP STEEL	785	790
DAI KIP IK	807	791	NIP YUSEN	785	793
DAI NIP PT	2650	2640	NIS MOTOR	1210	1220
DAI NIP SC	1030	1030	NOHARA SEC	3380	3400
DAI NIP TO	610	615	OBIA CO	892	891
DAICEL	820	829	OLYMPUS	1120	1110
DAIMA H.	1980	2010	PENTA DCN	855	858
DAIMA SEC	2220	2240	PIONEER	3740	3740
EBRA MFG	1020	1000	RENOH	920	915
EISAI	1990	2000	RICOH	1270	1270
FUJITSU	1780	1790	SANYO	2100	2100
FUJI BANK	3130	3130	SANYO ELEC	750	755
FUJI PHOTO	3490	3530	SEIYU ST	2080	2080
FUJISAMA	1830	1810	SEKISUI PB	1680	1680
FUJITA CP	715	719	SHARP	1150	1150
HITACHI	1800	1810	SHISEIDO	1650	1650
HONDA MOT	2210	2190	SONY	6960	6950
ISETAN	2130	2120	SUMITOMO	1030	1030
ITO YOKADO	4030	4030	TAISEI	931</td	

Dollar slightly down

Gold touches 18-month low in London

LONDON, Sept. 19, (Reuters): Gold tumbled again today as falling oil and grain prices helped convince still more traders that inflation risks were fading.

The dollar eased slightly and Wall Street stocks fell.

Dealers seemed little concerned with the International Monetary Fund and World Bank annual meetings due to open in West Berlin on Thursday.

"There has been a lot of pre-publicity that officials are satisfied with current developments and the feeling one gets is that they are going to rubber stamp present exchange rate levels," said a dealer at London investment bankers Morgan Grenfell and Co.

Lowest

Gold fell to its lowest value in a year-and-a-half, touching \$405.50 an ounce in early Zurich trading. It was fixed in London at \$409 this afternoon, down \$6.15 from Friday afternoon.

"Gold is an orphan, nobody wants it," said a precious metals in New York.

Bullion is popular with many investors when they think inflation will erode the value of cash or securities.

But with a worldwide glut of oil depressing prices, as Brent crude oil from the North Sea fell as much as 45 cents a barrel to \$13.25 for November delivery, inflation fears are easing.

In Chicago, wheat and corn prices, which had been pushed up

by drought in North America this summer, eased. Rotterdam feed grains were also lower.

"Traders are going to try to push gold down to \$400 in the next few days," said Graham Birch, precious metals analyst for brokers Kleinwort Grieveson in London.

On Wall Street, however, dealers were disappointed that falling oil and commodity prices did not spark a bond rally. They are concerned it could suggest investors are not completely convinced inflationary pressures are easing.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 23.47 points to a 2,074.68 at midday.

"There's just a low degree of conviction on the part of investors," said John Conlon, research director at Nikko Securities Co in New York.

The dollar, meanwhile, closed about half a pfenning and two-thirds a yen lower at 1.87 West German marks and 133.60 yen. It traded at \$1.6780 to the British pound sterling.

Cautious

"It's time to be a bit cautious of being long dollars. I think the central banks are waiting for a good level to come in and sell the dollar while it's quiet," said Klaus Roskopp, foreign exchange manager at Security Pacific Bank in Frankfurt.

Meanwhile, the drop in gold prices rocked the Australian stock market as investors bailed

out of leading gold and mining stocks. Sydney shares fell 1.2 per cent.

UK equity prices closed mixed after a quiet day's trading. Many investors were happy to keep to the sidelines ahead of tomorrow's August money supply and bank lending data, both major indicators of inflationary pressure, dealers said.

Higher

At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 was 1.2 points higher at 1,767.9 after an opening low of 1,762.7. Volume was subdued, with only 246 million shares changing hands before 1400 GMT.

Gains in selective speculative issues among the FTSE 100 share index constituents were mostly balanced by losses in stocks trading ex-dividend.

"People are very worried about inflation, so tomorrow's figures are of paramount importance," one trader said. "With volume so low and Wall Street falling, the only way we can go this afternoon is down."

The US stock market opened only slightly lower but the fall gathered pace on a lack of interest and in further technical reaction to Friday's triple option and figures expiry, traders in the US said.

Dealers said the most important of tomorrow's economic figures is M-4 bank lending, which is anticipated to show a rise of some \$8 billion after a nine billion increase in July.

Pearson, owners of the Financial Times newspaper and Lazard's Merchant Bank, was a major feature with a rise of 47p to 736 amid speculation that fellow publisher Reed, 5p lower at 402, may be considering a bid, dealers said.

Dealers said it was rather ironic that the Pearson gains followed a statement by the company that it was not considering a merger proposal with Reed after exploratory talks. Reed said it was surprised at the defensive tone of Pearson's statement.

Analysts said the rise simply indicated a market-makers mark-up ahead of a potential bid situation and the majority rejected the idea of a full bid for Pearson in the near-term.

"With 40 per cent of Pearson stock in friendly hands a bid would be very difficult to win," one leading analyst in the publishing and printing sector said. He also thought a takeover from major shareholder Australian born publishing magnate Rupert Murdoch was unlikely because of his already large newspaper interests.

Murdoch owns around 18 per cent of Pearson after his holding was diluted by Pearson's share swap with Dutch publisher Elsevier.

Analysts estimate that to stand any chance of success, an offer for Pearson would have to be pitched at a minimum of 20 times

1988 earnings, translating into

£11 for each Pearson share and valuing the company at around £2.45 billion.

The Pearson mark-up sparked action in other speculative favourites, with Lonrho 5p higher at 269 amid continuing rumours that a buyer, thought to be of US origin, is building a stake in the company.

English China Clays added 7p at 465 after recent market talk RTZ may be considering a bid for the company, but hotel group Trusthouse Forte closed just 2p higher at 258 as profit-taking after touching 262 on rumours of stake-building in the company.

Profits

Glaxo shed 17p to 986 after annual pre-tax profits of £832 million against 746 million last year. Dealers said the results were in line with forecasts but Wall Street's fall hurt the shares.

Textile group Coats Viyella slumped 21p to 178 after posting half-year profits of £76 million against 81 million, below most market expectations. Other textiles eased in sympathy.

In a nervous insurance sector, Commercial Union added 8p to 334 on relief that Hurricane Gilbert, which has caused havoc in the relatively under-insured areas of Jamaica and Mexico, had blown itself out before hitting the state of Texas. Commercial Union along with many other UK insurers would have faced large claims if it had hit Texas, analysts said.

Fluctuations

"No single group, oil producers or consumers, OPEC or non-OPEC oil producers, governments or private companies, can truly say that it has benefited from the fluctuations in the oil market during this decade," the minister added.

"Our call for co-operation in OPEC has been based on the reasoned view that the burden of defending oil market stability should be the joint responsibility of all market participants," Lukman said.

"The events of 1986 remain fresh in our minds, and there can be no better proof of the consequences of such a situation when we opt to go our separate ways in the oil market."

"The adverse effect on the oil supply from non-OPEC areas on

the international financial system, especially the bank failure rates in the United States, and on the pace of economic development in oil-producing countries, makes a strong case for co-operation in the defence of oil market stability."

The minister pointed out that

"Nigeria is endowed with a total oil reserve of about 16 billion barrels, providing a 30-year life-span at current production levels."

"Consequently, our interest in stable markets is at once a recognition of our longer-term involvement in the oil industry, as well as our strong belief in the mutual benefit that a regime of stable prices offers to all participants in the oil industry. This interest has prompted our desire to play a stabilising role in the oil market," he said.

Growth

Earlier, in his opening address, Singapore's Minister for Trade and Industry Brig. Gen. Lee Hsien Loong said the growth of oil consumption in the Asia-Pacific region "is one of the highest in the world."

"Singapore is already the biggest bunker port in the world, supplying 8.5 million tonnes annually, or 150,000 barrels per day. The futures contract will complement this trade," Lee said.

Another keynote address will be delivered tomorrow by the Egyptian Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Abdel-hadi Kandil.

Heading Kuwait's 16-man delegation at the conference was Ahmed Al Mutairi, chairman of Kuwait National Petroleum Company.

Prince Abdul Aziz Bin Al-Saud, who is the special assistant to the Minister of Petroleum in Dhahran, led the six-man team from Saudi Arabia.

Bahrain and the UAE were also represented by six-man delegations while Oman had four delegates and Qatar three.

Omani chief delegate, Raashid Bin Khalid Al Barwani, director of marketing, Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals, will deliver a paper tomorrow on "the role of Oman in the oil world."

Referring to the booming

Prices could rise even higher

OPEC president calls for co-operation

SINGAPORE, Sept. 19. (KUNA): The president of OPEC, Nigerian Oil Minister Rilwanu Lukman today called for co-operation among all oil-producing countries "in the defence of oil market stability."

In his keynote address to the 4th international Asia-Pacific Petroleum Conference (APPEC) held here, Lukman said: "As a member of OPEC, Nigeria wholeheartedly accepts the view that co-operation among all oil producers is a necessity if the international oil market is to return to an orderly course in the years ahead."

He said that prices could rise even higher after 1989 if all oil producers co-operate to achieve market stability.

"We have all suffered from the vicissitudes of the instability in the oil market in recent years that we do not see any alternative to both producers and consumers co-operation in order to achieve a reasonable degree of market stability," he told some 800 delegates from 49 countries attending the three-day conference.

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"The adverse effect on the oil supply from non-OPEC areas on

the heavy cost inflation imposes on the country's poor."

Dealing with the decline in Asia's share in IDA resources from well over 60 per cent in the 1970s and early 1980s to about 47 per cent in the just-completed financial year 1988, the World Bank vice-president said: "India had seen its per capita annual average share of IDA resources decline from \$2.0 in 1979-80 to less than \$1.0 in the fiscal year 1988."

He said the IDA and IBRD lending for the Asia region in the fiscal year 1988 was about \$7.7 billion up by some 14 per cent over the previous year's level. A total of 65 projects were presented to the board of executive directors.

"India remains our largest single borrower, accounting for almost 39 per cent of the total lending programme, followed by China with 22 per cent and Indonesia with 18 per cent."

Adjustment lending accounted for over ten per cent of the total," he added.

About the economic perfor-

mance of the Asia region, Karaosmanoglu said: "India, for example, had managed a real GDP growth of 8.8 per cent last year even as agricultural production plummeted by over eight per cent due to the worst drought in a generation."

He said the outlook for Asia was quite buoyant, but overall development prospects in the region should not induce complacency. He drew attention to several areas of concern both in terms of macroeconomic management issues and long-term development problems.

He said: "Overall, Asia remains a region with debt burdens, but without debt crises."

With the exception of the Philippines, Asian countries have avoided external debt negotiations since the mid-1970s.

Excepting Indonesia, projections of total long-term debt service ratios for 1988 in Asian countries range from 6.4 per cent for China to 24.1 per cent for India, reflecting Asia's generally prudent approach to external borrowing.

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Dear Junior Readers,

There do seem to be a lot of people around these days who think that good manners and politeness are old-fashioned ideas which have no place in our fast-moving, hi-tech world. They will say that nowadays, no-one has time to hold doors open for others, wait one's turn in a queue or even say 'please' and 'thank you'.

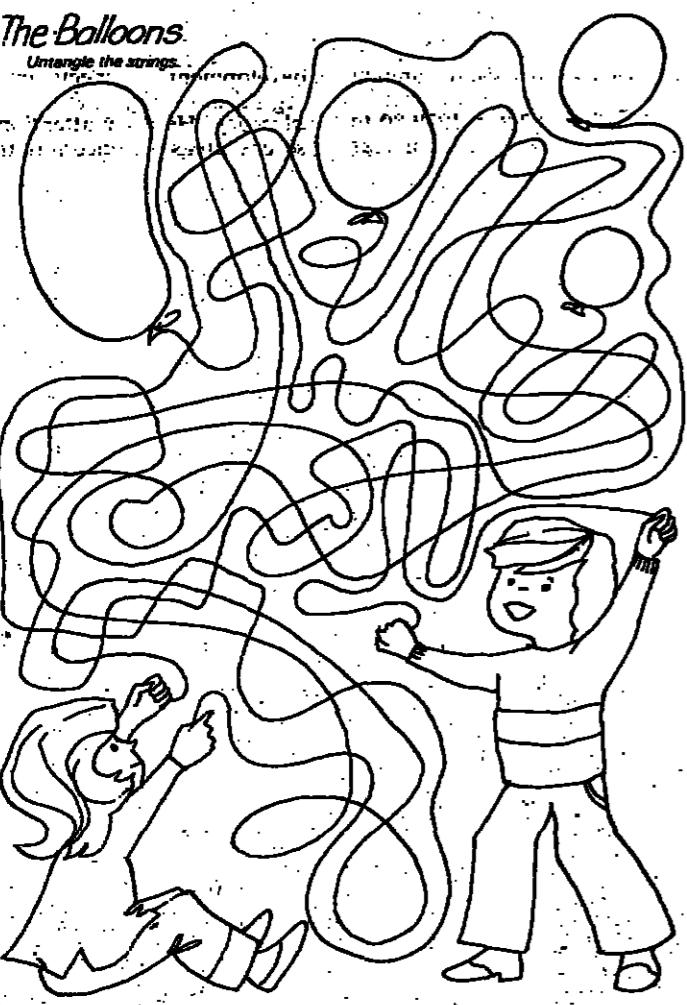
Some rules of behaviour might seem to be unimportant, but, in general, we have such rules to help us to care about others so, that we do not go crashing selfishly through life without a thought for people's feelings. The world has come a long way since the days when people lived in caves and fought and killed for their daily needs. But, I am sorry to say that for all we have done, for example, science, medicine, art and education, there are still many people who live and behave little better than those cavemen!

Auntie Jayne

General knowledge quiz

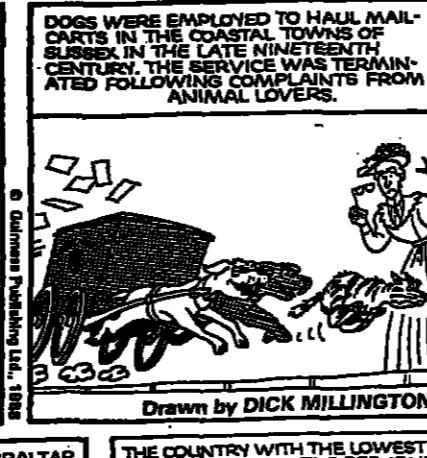
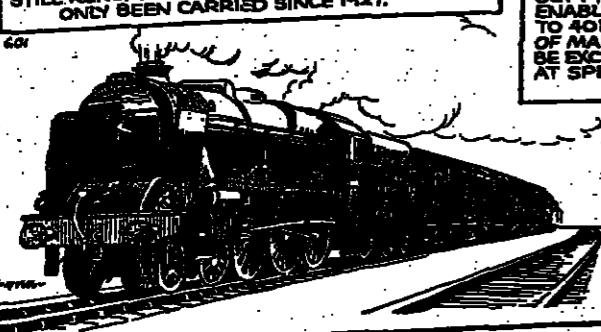
- What is the difference between slander and libel?
- What is the difference between a tombola and tombolo?
- What does a meteorologist mean when he refers to 'low' in giving weather forecasts?
- What is a tourniquet and how is it applied?
- Of what oath are these the first words: 'I swear by Apollo, the Physician...?'
- What is the 'hunting' which is done in some churches?
- What does a cardiograph register?
- What is the traditional name given to the log burned on a Christmas fire?
- In street lighting two predominant colours are being used. What are they and what metallic elements are used in the tube to give these colours?
- What were the ballistae that the Romans used to attack when they besieged a city?
- What was the testudo — or tortoise — that the Romans used when they besieged a city?
- What kind of weather does an anti-cyclone usually bring?
- Complete this weather lore saying: 'A red sky at night is...'
- What kind of dramatic presentation is given at Oberammergau every ten years?
- What would you expect to find in a phial?
- What is the term of office of the President of the United States of America?
- What is wrong about this statement: 'Tin Pan Alley is a street noted for the sale of cooking utensils?'

Solution on Thursday



Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS

THE OLDEST NAMED TRAIN IN THE WORLD IS THE 'IRISH MAIL' WHICH RUNS IN ANGLESY, NORTH WALES, WHERE IT CONNECTS WITH THE SALTBURN LINE. IT WAS LAST USED ON 4 OCTOBER 1985, TO 4015 (184) OF MAIL TO BE CARRIED AT SPEED.



Retold by Stephen Corrin

THERE once lived an old man who had three sons. He was very fond of them for they were all excellent lads. The old man didn't have much money but he did have a most comfortable house and he could not make up his mind which son to leave his house to.

"They have all been such good sons to me," he thought to himself. "I'm afraid I shall have to sell the house and share out the money I get for it among the three of them."

So he called his sons together and told them of his plan.

"Father," they said, "we know you want to be fair to us but we really don't want you to sell our comfortable house. Your grandfather and father before you, with their families, all lived in it; it is a very nice house and we all love it. Please do not sell it."

The father smiled. "I really am glad you think that way, my boys," he said. "Of course, I would rather not sell the house. But how else can I leave you each an equal share of what I have?"

"Listen, Father," said the eldest son who was a very thoughtful young man. "Let all three of us go out into the world for one year to learn a trade — whichever trade we like

best. And when we come back you must decide which one of us has learnt his job best. And to him you will leave the house. In that way this splendid house will not go out of the family."

The other two sons said, "Yes! Yes! An excellent idea!" So the father agreed to let them go, though he was truly sorry to be without them for a whole year.

Now what trade do you think they chose? The eldest said: "I am going to learn to be a blacksmith. I love attending to horses, and, besides, it will make my muscles very strong."

The second son said: "I have always wanted to be a barber. I can handle a razor well. That's the trade for me."

"And I," said the third, "I am going to learn to be a fencing master. I am light and nimble on my feet and I have a good eye. I think I shall make a first-rate fencing-master."

So one fine morning — it was the first of June — the three lads said good-bye to their father and set off on their separate ways. They were all going to be back by eight o'clock in the morning on the first of June the following year.

Well, the year went by slowly for the poor father.

for he was lonely without his sons, but it passed very quickly for the boys. They were so busy learning their trades with their teachers that they did not notice the time passing. By about March, however, they had all finished learning their trade and each received a certificate of excellence from his master.

The eldest son was such an expert blacksmith that even the King heard about him and hired him to shoe the royal horses.

The second son, too, turned out to be a first-class barber and the smartest people came to him to have their hair and beards trimmed.

The third son found things somewhat harder, for the land was full of fine fencers and it was quite a time before his fame had spread. But he was never discouraged. He was really determined to be the best fencer, not only in the land, but in the whole world.

At last on the first of June at eight o'clock in the morning, they arrived at their father's house and he gave them a tremendous welcome. He had missed them very much.

But now the question was: how was he to find out which one had learnt his trade best? The sons didn't

The three brothers

argue about it but each secretly thought to himself that he would get the house.

They all went out for a walk over the fields to think the matter over. Suddenly a little rabbit came sprinting towards them. The barber took out his mug and soap, whipped up a foaming lather and, as the rabbit was actually rushing past them, he lathered the bunny's chin and shaved it nice and clean. He did it so fast that the rabbit barely noticed.

His father was amazed. "This boy will surely have the house," he thought. "There can't be a faster barber in the whole land."

Just then a gnat came buzzing close by, flying just above their heads. The blacksmith got his tools together and in a jiffy had fitted it with tiny golden horse-shoes, each carefully secured with tiny golden pins that didn't hurt. He did this all the while the gnat was actually flying!

"Goodness me!" thought the father. "he's even better than his brother. I suppose I shall have to leave the house to him."

Just then it started to rain, slightly at first but then more and more heavily. But before a single



drop had fallen on his head the third son had drawn his sword and swung it this way and that, and in all directions above his head, to beat each droplet away from him. Fast as the rain fell, his gleaming sword was even faster. Thick and fast it poured down, drenching all the others, but the third son remained absolutely dry. He flashed his sword this way and that above him, never getting tired, and he remained as dry as though he were sitting at home.

The father was absolutely amazed. "Truly remarkable! Truly wonderful!" he said. "To you I must leave the house. Your brothers have certainly mastered their trade but you are a supreme master."

The other two brothers thoroughly agreed with their father and felt proud of their clever young brother.

But although he won the house for himself he did not send the others away. He shared it with them and they all lived there in peace and friendship for the rest of their days.

Pets' Corner

Each of the words to which clues are given below ends with the letters 'PET'.

Can you spot them all?

- An instrumental PET
- A doggy PET
- A small piece of a PET
- A 'Punch and Judy' sort of PET
- A floor-covering PET

WORD ARITHMETIC

These are simply long-division problems in which letters are substituted for the numbers 0 to 9. Solve each problem, writing every letter, as you discover its value, above the correct number on the line provided. When you are finished, the letters will spell out a word or phrase.

1. 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
S I L K
S K I C L A S S I C
A I C S
C H B S
C T A H
I M I
S K I
A A B C
A L T T
L S

2. 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
B R A N
G N A T E A R R I N G
G N A T
B R B I I
B B M B N
G B G N G
D M D E R
G B B I

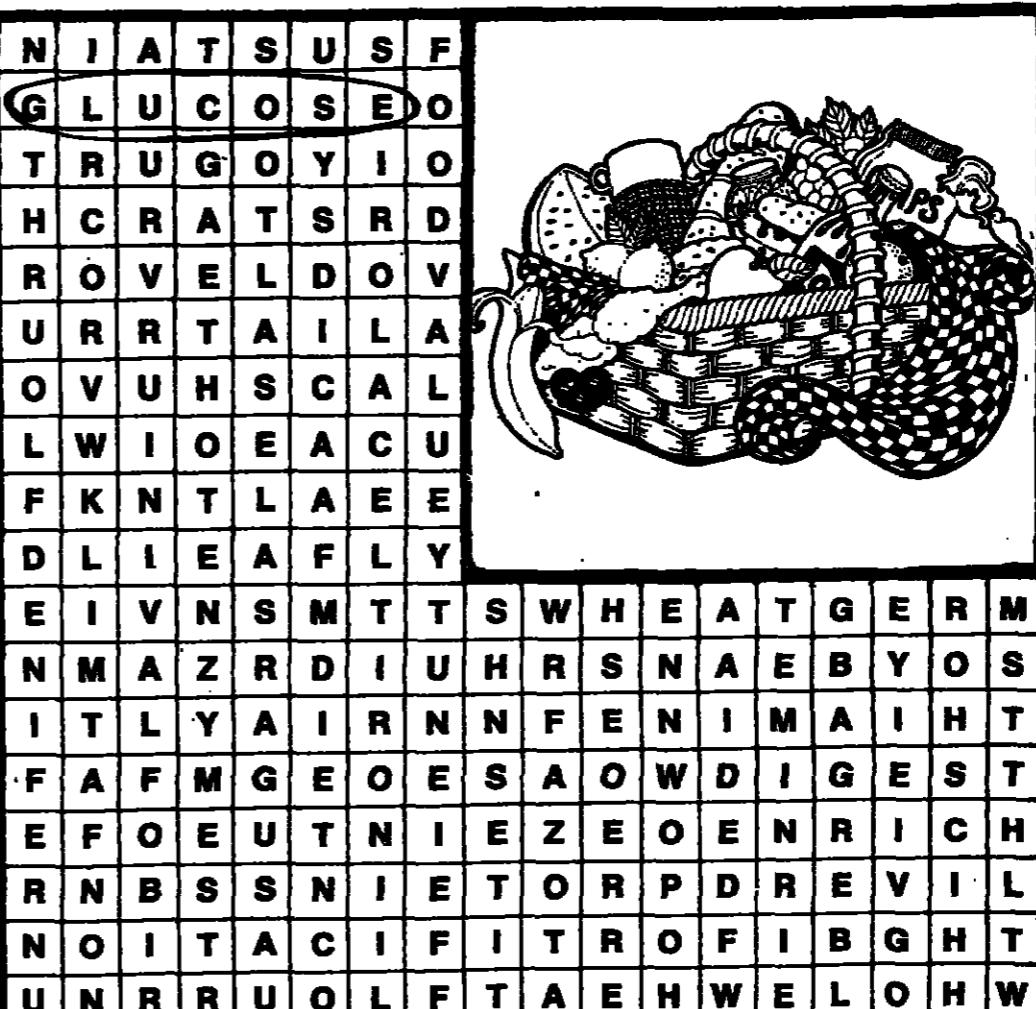
3. 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
E L K
Y O K E L E G A L L Y
L I A F O
O A L F L
O F A G I
F T O K Y
F A G O Y
L O A G

4. 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
P I E
H E E L G R A P H I C
I E E C R
A A H I
H E E L
H A H P C
H P E L T
I H E T

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CALORIES	GLUCOSE
DIET	HEALTH FOOD
ENRICH	IRON
ENZYME	LIVER
	NONFAT MILK
	PEANUT FLOUR
	PROTEINS
	RIBOFLAVIN

SALT
SOY BEANS
STARCH
SUGARS
SUSTAIN
THIAMINE
UNREFINED FLOUR
VITAMINS
WHEAT GERM
WHOLE WHEAT FLOUR
YOGURT
ZEIN



Clue: Too fat! (10 letters)

Definitely Yours

Fourteen words are defined. As a help to you, all the words contain the same number of letters, and also begin with the same letter.

- Sign of the zodiac
- Kind of cheese
- Fraction
- American politician
- Private room
- Small clump of trees
- Italian woman
- Orange-yellow colour
- Kind of hat
- Container for books
- Soft drink
- Purchaser
- Sort of onion
- Brimstone

Solution on Thursday

Truly amazing!

Before entering a Japanese home, visitors remove their shoes.

Among the organs of a dead ostrich in the London Zoo were found two handkerchiefs, three gloves, a film spool, part of a plastic comb, an alarm clock winding key, part of a rolled gold necklace, two collar studs and a Belgian franc piece.

Monaco has a greater proportion of the population with telephones than any other country, 965 per 1000 of the population.

If you had fifteen books on a shelf and you arranged them in every possible combination, and if you made one change every minute, it would take you 2,487,996 years to do them all.

Bumping foreheads with a handshake is the traditional greeting in Tibet.

ARAB TIMES

Classifieds

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(AT3-S. TM-3)

KUWAIT City. Sharq, behind Al Firdous Cinema. Rooms with kitchen and bathroom for families or working girls only. Contact the "Salon Goraya", Villa No. 142, Tele. Mohammad, 2404265.

(AT4-43953-3)

SALMIYA, near the Indian/Pakistani schools. Accommodation for a bachelor (non-smoker). Tele. 5610865, 2-6.30 pm.

(AT4-44002-3)

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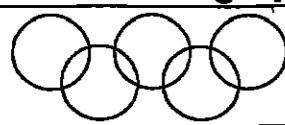
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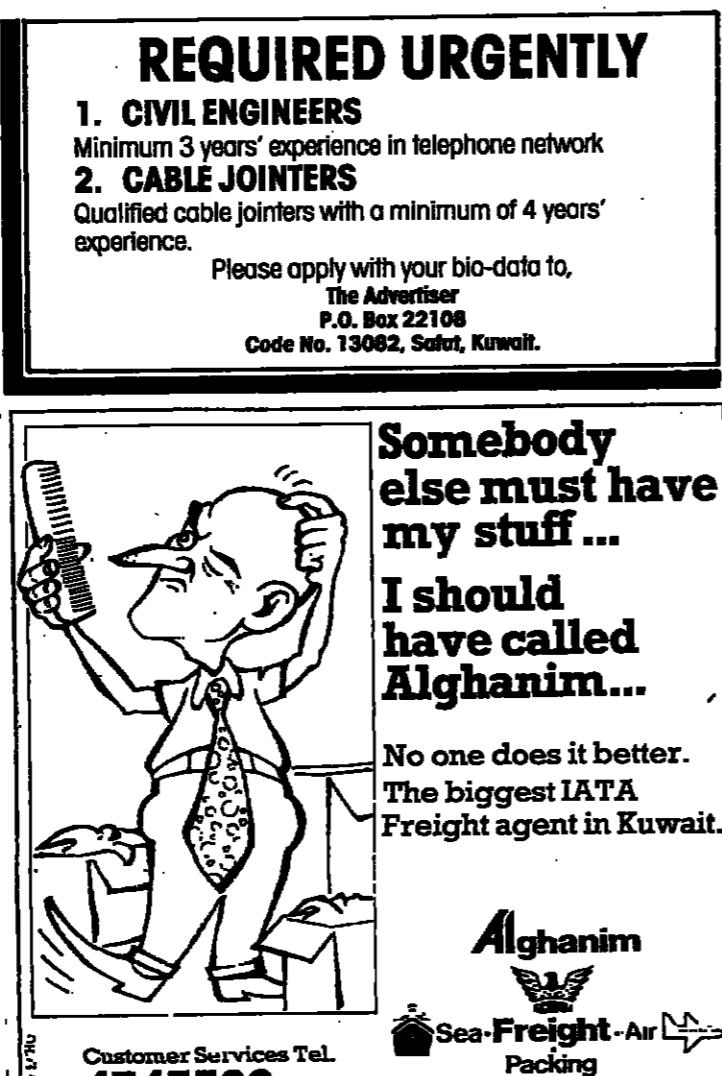
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(AT3-43981-2)

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(AT3-43982-3)

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(AT2-43971-3)

ANTIQUE books, engravings, stamps, computer spectrum 128K, computerised chess. Ball typewriter. Contact Dr. Mohamed Wazan Complex behind the Turkish restaurant between the club and cinema Al Salmaia, building No. 58, apartment 4.

(AT4-43985-2)

MITSUBISHI Galant Sapporo (Sports) '82 model, beige colour. In excellent condition for sale immediately. Tele. Mr Ibrahim, 2402876, 8 am-9 pm.

(AT2-HK-TM-3)

MAZDA 323, 1978 model, with AC in good condition. KD 250. Tele. 4741367.

(AT2-4741367-3)

NISSAN Cherry 1980, semi-automatic, red, with AC in good running condition. KD175 cash. Tele. Mr Ibrahim 5612784, 9 am-12 noon.

(AT3-43990-3)

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EVANS AND OTTO TAKE FIRST OLYMPIC GOLDS

Armstrong stuns Gross and Biondi

SEOUL, Sept. 19. (Reuter): Unheralded Australian Duncan Armstrong slayed swimming giants Matt Biondi and Michael Gross and romped away with an Olympic gold medal in an astonishing climax to a day of excitement in the Olympic pool today.

Armstrong swam the race of his life as he charged past ace American sprinter Biondi on the last length of the 200 metres freestyle final and dispossessed West German defending champion Gross of both his Olympic title and world record.

Causes

British Adrian Moorhouse had earlier rescued what would have been a lost cause for a lesser fighter. He captured the 100 metres breaststroke title by just 0.01 of a second in a nerve-jangling finish after trailing a distant sixth at the halfway mark.

East German Kristin Otto and American Janet Evans, the outstanding all-round women swimmers in Seoul, made their first excursions to the rostrum to collect gold medals — Otto for the 100 metres freestyle and Evans for the 400 metres individual medley.

But Armstrong capped the day by scooping Australia's 100th Olympic swimming title, remarkably carving nearly three seconds from his best pre-Seoul



Evans raises her arms in victory. (Reuter wirephoto)

The Australian, third behind Biondi and Sweden's European champion Anders Holmertz until the last length, surged home in one minute 47.25 seconds, slicing 0.19 from Gross's world and Olympic mark.

He also continued an Aus-

tralian giant-killing tradition, following the upset victory team-mate Jon Sieben achieved over Gross in the 200 metres butterfly at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics.

"All eight finalists had medal chances but Armstrong was as big a surprise as Sieben, and he

was in lane six too," said Gross. Holmertz, who toppled Gross at the 1987 European Championships, clinched the silver in 1:47.89 and Biondi, on track for medals in seven events, took the bronze in 1:47.99.

"The world record is just a bonus that came with it. I'm tickled pink," Armstrong, Commonwealth 400 metres freestyle champion, said.

Gross, twice world 200 free-

style champion and world

record-holder for the past five

years was never in the picture

and managed only fifth place in 1:48.59.

"I always said you'd have to swim a world record to win. I was confident I could do it but wasn't up to it. I don't know why. When I tried to put on a spurt on the last length my arms felt as though they were full of air and I couldn't pull through the water," he said, adding he was disappointed with his time, not the result.

Biondi appeared relieved the pressure was off him to emulate the seven golds achieved by compatriot Mark Spitz in Munich in 1972. "I never said I wanted to equal Mark Spitz. I wanted my fastest times ever," he said.

"I'm really pleased with my swim. This is my worst event and I've medalled, so I'm really happy with that. The Mark Spitz times is over. You didn't see Aus-

tralians and Swedes then. I'm proud of myself and I have to hand it to these two guys. They swam well," he added in tribute to Armstrong and Holmertz.

European champion Moorhouse, fully 1.30 seconds behind perennial Soviet rival Dmitri Volkov who went into the turn in a European record 28.12, surged back from sixth place to edge out Hungarian Karoly Guttler 1:02.04.

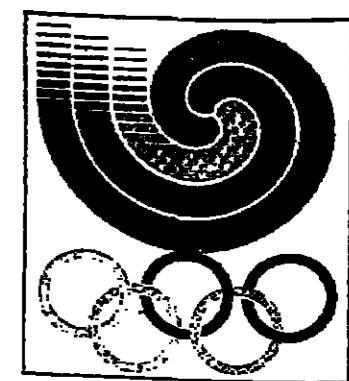
"I didn't realise that he was so close. I never saw him until it went up on the scoreboard. I felt sorry for him," said Moorhouse, no stranger to disappointment himself after finishing fourth at the 1984 Olympics and being disqualified for a faulty turn in the 1986 world championships after touching home first.

Otto, holder of seven world and seven European gold medals, clinched her first Olympic title with a runaway win in the 100 freestyle in 54.93. Zhuang Yong took the silver in 55.47, celebrating China's first-ever Olympic swimming medal.

Evans won the individual medley from Romania's European champion Noemi Lungi and looked forward to a golden treble with the 400 and 800 metres freestyle. "I just have to keep my mind on the other races. My freestyle feels good. I have confidence now," she said.



Louganis at the moment of impact when he hit the back of the head on the springboard. (Reuter wirephoto)



OLYMPIC NOTEBOOK

Marathon runner

IBRAHIM HUSSEIN went jogging this week — over the Olympic marathon course in Seoul. It took him three hours. Next week the Kenyan will be back running on the same stretch of road. He expects to be a good 50 minutes faster and to end up with a gold medal around his neck.

Carl Lewis

CARL LEWIS is nowhere to be seen in the Olympic athletes' village but his haircut is everywhere. The quadruple US Olympic champion has found quarters away from the other athletes, but seen from behind in the Olympic village many black sportsmen could be mistaken for him.

IOC objects

THE International Olympic Committee (IOC) yesterday accused US athletes of advertising the name of a television network during the Saturday's Games opening ceremony. IOC is asking the athletes not to repeat the action.

Dressage event

WEST GERMAN riders cantered into the lead of the first day of the dressage section of the Olympic three-day event yesterday. Thies Kasperitz, 24, showed excellent control as he put his 10-year-old Mount Sherry through its movements, particularly in the circle and serpentine sequences.

Doping tests

A SWEDISH weightlifter has been sent home from the Seoul Games after doping tests showed he had used muscle-building drugs, the head of the Sweden's Olympic delegation said yesterday.

Ben Johnson

CANADA'S Ben Johnson is sticking to the same afternoon training schedule which he used before breaking the world 100 metres record at the Rome World Championships last year despite the morning starts in the Seoul Olympics.

Village mayor

KIM YONG-SHIK, mayor of the athletes' village at the Seoul Games, has been showered with gifts from the 160 nations represented at the biggest Olympics in history.

Popular sport

SOCCER, the most popular sport at the last two Olympics, is attracting big crowds to the tournament in Seoul. There have been two 30,000 sell-outs for the first eight ties which pulled in a total of 172,000 spectators.

Long wait

WEST GERMANY, the third biggest team at the Seoul Games, have complained that athletes have to wait too long for their food and can't eat it when it arrives.

Drug tests

EIGHT athletes who failed drug tests at the US Olympic trials in July will not be punished, the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) said yesterday.

Harald Schmid

WEST GERMAN Harald Schmid could miss the Olympic 400 metres hurdles final where he was expected to offer world record holder Ed Moses his toughest opposition. "Schmid still has problems with stretching his leg over the hurdle. I fear he might have to drop out after the heats," team doctor Wilfried Kindermann said yesterday.

Record ratified

THE sensational world record of 10.49 seconds in the women's 100 metres dash was ratified today by the International Amateur Athletics Federation. The documentation presented for the ratification was "fully satisfactory" and there were no questions about the ratification among the IAAF council members, said its president, Primo Nebioli.

Soviet coach

SOVIET basketball coach Alexander Gomelsky, whose team were beaten 93-79 by rivals Yugoslavia on Sunday, said yesterday that he was still confident — because things could not get much worse. "My boys played badly," said Gomelsky, coaching at his seventh Olympics. "It is not possible that the whole team can play this badly again."

Soviets stay on top in gymnastics

SEOUL, Sept. 19. (Reuter): Romania's Daniela Silivas stole the show with two perfect marks, but Yelena Shushunova ensured the Soviet Union were well in control of the women's Olympic team gymnastics event after today's compulsory exercises.

Shushunova had one maximum mark of 10, as did East Germany's Dagmar Kersten, while much-heralded favourite Aurelia Dobre of Romania was left in the shadows.

Silivas was top scorer with 39.75 points to second-placed Shushunova's 39.725 but the Soviet team's strong all-round performance gave them the lead halfway through the competition, with 197.365 points.

Romania were second on 196.515 and East Germany third on 195.425.

The compulsories are followed on Wednesday by optional exercises to determine the team medals, with each gymnast's scores also being partially carried forward to the individual events later.

Kersten scored the first perfect, 10, of the competition with a dazzling display on the asymmetric bars. Minutes later, Silivas duplicated the feat, then went on to score another 10 with an extrovert and bouncy interpretation of the set floor exercises.

The performance completed the first part of Silivas' revenge over Dobre, who last year surprisingly outshone her older and better-known teammate — and Shushunova — to win the world all-round title.

Superior

Shushunova herself, at 19 the veteran of a Soviet team which includes three 15-year-olds, competed in the evening session later but was clearly superior to Dobre, who had performed with her left knee bandaged and was hesitant in some of her routines.

The Romanian team were in the crowd for the first half of the impressive Soviet performance, then left after seeing the size of their task if they are to repeat their victory over the Russians at the 1987 World Championships.

Shushunova, grim-faced before and during her routines, allowed herself a little smile as she completed her vault. The judges could not find fault and gave her a 10.

The Soviet gymnasts then outshone their main rivals on the beam, a traditional Romanian speciality where Dobre, 15, had shown signs of uncertainty in her movements.

The young Romanian finished well adrift of the leaders, half a point behind Shushunova and a further 0.05 behind Silivas — margins which could prove too wide to make up in the individual all-round contest later this week.

Shooting event

SEOUL, Sept. 19. (Reuter): Fast-shooting Czechoslovak Miroslav Varga breezed his way to a gold medal in the smallbore free rifle prone event at the Olympics today, beating his more fancied rivals and the weather.

Soviet student Nino Saloukya scored a clear victory in the women's sport pistol with 690 points after Jasna Sekaric of Yugoslavia, who was equal first going into the final round, failed with five shots and dropped to third place with 686.

Iraq take Guatemala to task

TAEJON, South Korea, Sept. 19, (AP): Iraq blitzed Guatemala 3-0 today in the Olympic soccer tournament, improving its chances of advancing to the tournament's quarterfinals.

Iraq needs at least a draw on Wednesday against Italy to move into the round of eight.

Ahmed Amish scored Iraq's first goal in the 57th minute and Mudaafar Taufek added another in the 68th minute. Iraq's final score came on an own goal by Guatemalan defender Jaime Barrios in the 71st minute.

Iraq, with three points, shares the lead with Zambia in the tournament's Group B division.

Zambia, a winner today over Italy, and Iraq played to a 2-2

draw in an opening match on Saturday.

Italy has two points in the standings, followed by winless Guatemala, which faces Zambia on Wednesday.

Zambia, playing in the Olympics for the first time, scored the biggest upset so far of the soccer tournament when they humbled Italy 4-0.

Completely

A superb hat-trick by Kalusha Bwalya scuppered the Italians who were completely outplayed in the Group B tie.

West Germany fared better than their European rivals. They qualified for the quarterfinals from Group A with a comprehensive 4-1 victory over Tunisia.

The experienced Italians, five of whom were in their country's squad for the European Championships in June, never got to grips with the Zambians' direct style.

Bwalya began his scoring spree in the 40th minute, his left foot shot finding the corner of the net.

His second goal was a curling free-kick and he completed his hat-trick with tap-in right on the final whistle.

Italian coach Francesco Rocca described the defeat as disastrous but said he still thought his team would qualify for the quarterfinals.

West Germany, inspired by the elegant Juergen Klinsmann,

suffered a brief setback when Tunisia's Nabil Maalouf cantered into Roland Grahammer's fourth minute goal.

But in the second half West Germany, chasing its first Olympic medal of any colour, took full control. Holger Fach, Frank Mill and Wolfram Wutke, with a penalty, were the Germans' other marksmen.

Secured

Sweden took a step nearer a quarterfinal spot with a 2-0 win over China in Group A.

Goals from Peter Lonn and Jan Hellstrom in the first half secured victory for the Swedes and took them to within a point of group leaders West Germany.

Aouita misses training for six days

SEOUL, Sept. 19, (Reuter): Said Aouita, who is aiming for gold in the 800 and 1,500 metres at the Olympics, said today he had not trained for six days because of a stomach upset and was also suffering from a strained thigh muscle.

Aouita, the Olympic and world 5,000 metres champion, said he expected the problem with his left thigh muscle to clear up in the next three days.

"Everything is fine here except the food. I've not even had a sandwich today. I've had terrible stomach upsets and hadn't trained for six days until yesterday.

Hurts

"With all the medicine I've taken I hope it's cleared up," the Moroccan said.

Aouita interrupted his training for massage on his left thigh and then jogged slowly for about 10 minutes.

"The thigh is giving me a bit of trouble but we'll see in three days. Sure it hurts a bit but what hurts most is waiting for the races to start," he said.

Aouita's first race, the 800 metres first round, is scheduled for Friday, opening day of the athletics competition.

Sheikh Fahd said that if he proved to be an accident, then "we expect them to announce this."

Insists

Israel, which seized the whole of Jerusalem in the 1967 war, insists that the city is its capital during Saturday's opening ceremony.

Sheikh Fahd Al Ahmed of Kuwait, president of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA), said he protested to the president of the Games organising committee, Paris Seh-Jik, and to Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee.

Flashed

The capital was named as Jerusalem in a list of facts about the country flashed on a screen as the Israeli team walked into the stadium. Arab states do not accept the once-divided city as the Israeli capital.

Sheikh Fahd said that in a written protest sent today in his capacity as president of the 36-member OCA, he rejected exploitation of the Olympics for

political goals.

"This exploitation is well manifested in naming Jerusalem as the capital of Israel during the opening," he said.

Sheikh Fahd said this incident could "have a negative impact on the smooth running of the Games," but gave no details. The OCA is due to hold a regular meeting on Wednesday at which the issue may be discussed.

Sheikh Fahd said that if it proved to be an accident, then "we expect them to announce this."

Drug tests

EIGHT athletes who failed drug tests at the US Olympic trials in July will not be punished, the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) said yesterday.

Long wait

WEST GERMANY, the third biggest team at the Seoul Games, have complained that athletes have to wait too long for their food and can't eat it when it arrives.

Hungary take lead in modern pentathlon

SEOUL, Sept. 19, (Reuter): Hungary took the lead on the second day of the modern pentathlon at the Seoul Olympics today after a 12-hour fencing marathon which pushed minds and bodies to the limit.

Each of the 65 competitors met all the others in a series of one-hit elimination bouts which pentathletes say are the hardest part of their demanding five-discipline sport.

At the end of the fencing

SPORTS BRIEFS

Liverpool 'keeper

LIVERPOOL, England, Sept. 19. (Reuter): Liverpool goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar was taken to hospital last night suffering from meningitis, the London Times reported today. The Times said Grobbelaar, 30, complained of feeling unwell after playing in Saturday's First Division fixture for the League champions against Tottenham Hotspur.

Belenenses draw

LISBON, Sept. 19. (Reuter): Belenenses drew for the second week in a row yesterday, but retained the leadership of the Portuguese Soccer First Division which they now share with Sporting Lisbon, Benfica and Porto.

Eisenhower Trophy

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 19. (Reuter): The joint British/Irish combination retained the men's world amateur golf team title, the Eisenhower Trophy, by five points from the United States yesterday.

Seattle golf

SEATTLE, Sept. 19. (Reuter): Juli Inkster won the \$225,000 Seattle women's golf tournament yesterday, finishing three strokes ahead of South Korean Ok Hee Ku and four strokes better than third-place Jan Stephenson of Australia.

Boston Classic

SUTTON, Mass., Sept. 19. (Reuter): American Mark Calvanechini came from three strokes back, sank a 30-foot birdie putt on his final hole and then waited out the late finishers to win the \$600,000 Boston Classic yesterday.

Baseball results

NEW YORK, Sept. 19. (Reuter): Results of Major League Baseball games played yesterday.

National League

New York	5	Montreal	3
Los Angeles	2	Cincinnati	0
Philadelphia	6	Pittsburgh	5
Atlanta	6	San Diego	5
San Francisco	10	Houston	3
St Louis	5	Chicago	4

American League

Boston Red	9	New York	4
Baltimore	2	Detroit	0
Oakland	3	Kansas City	0
Toronto	4	Cleveland	0
Chicago	8	Minnesota	5
California	6	Texas	5
Milwaukee	10	Seattle	2

BRIDGE

RESULTS of the Havana Bridge Club game played on Saturday evening:

N/S
1. Nabil Akel & Narendra Shah
2. M. Bleib & Dr Omer
3. Sherin Bayoumi & Ezzeldin E/W

1. Mrs Pereira & Deomar Pereira
2. Chaudhry & Mukerjee
3. Rasim & Kadoum

Results of the Regency Palace Bridge Club game held on Sunday:

N/S
1. Frederique & Gerard Astar
2. Nabil Akel & Mansour Sabri
and Rita Camusci & Ely Lamers

E/W

1. Sherin Bayoumi & Adel Bayoumi
2. Khurshid Zuberi & Narendra Shah

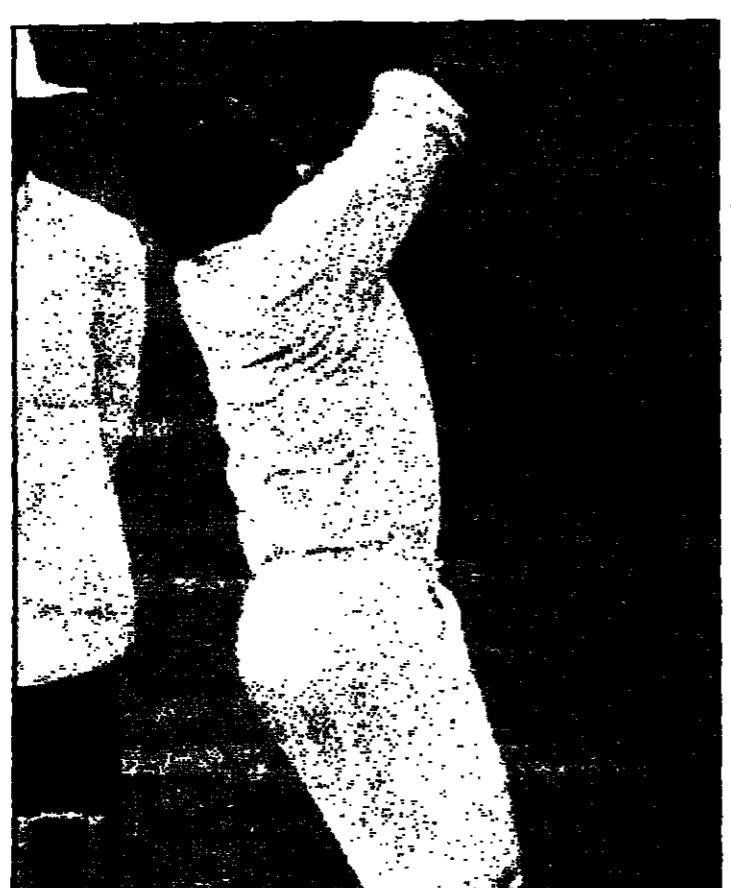
3. Abdullaftif Dusai & Sultan Ali

The Regency Palace Ladies Bridge Club will hold its first game of the season tomorrow at 9.00 am.

The Messiah Ladies Bridge Club will hold its first game of the season on Saturday, Sept. 24, at 9.00 am.

TAYLOR FAILS TO SAVE AUSTRALIANS FROM FOLLOW-ON

Pakistan on brink of crushing win



Qasim: seven wickets so far

KARACHI, Sept. 19. (Reuter): Pakistan's deadly spin attack brought them to the brink of a crushing first Test victory over Australia today as the row over the umpiring and the wicket

quickly began to tumble. At one point they were 15 for three.

Taylor, back at the wicket as opener, fell for two and then the spinners got busy.

David Boon paddled forward

so enthusiastically to Qasim that the ball went between his legs and bowled him for four. Dean Jones

was well caught by Ijaz Ahmad at

silly point off Abdul Qadir for

the same score.

Geoff Marsh and Graeme

Wood resisted after tea but fell

lbw to Tauseef Ahmed and

Qasim for 16 and 15 respectively.

At close of play captain Allan

Border was five and Steve

Waugh 11.

It had been another excellent day for the home side, although the spinners' exploits were almost overshadowed by controversy off the field. Qasim finished the fourth day with a total of seven wickets in the match. He took five in the first innings and two in the second.

Some parts of Karachi were hit by fresh rainstorms yesterday's rest day, but it would take very unseasonal weather to save Aus-

tralia.

Following on, Australia were

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